



LAST WEEK'S AVERAGE DAILY SALE 443,000

No 63,131

US cash for families of Airbus dead Compensation offered 'out of compassion'

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan announced yesterday that the US is to offer compensation to the families of the 290 passengers killed in the shooting down of the Iranian Airbus.

These included not only Iranians, but six other nationalities. Mr Reagan, while believing the actions of the USS Vincennes were justified and defensive, was saddened at the tragic deaths of the innocent victims of this accident.

Security Council debate on the incident. Before the formal announcement, Mr Reagan told reporters during a farewell visit to the White House by President Duarte of El Salvador: "I, from the first, have said that we are a compassionate people. And we all have compassion for the families of those unfortunate people that were on that plane."

The White House said again yesterday responsibility for the Airbus deaths and those of "hundreds of thousands of other innocent victims" lay with those who refused to end the Iran-Iraq war.

WIN £118,000 Portfolio - PLUS NEW Accumulator. With three daily prize winners yesterday (see page 3) Portfolio Accumulator stands unchanged at £118,000. Prices: page 31

INSIDE: Violence and criminal justice: Sir Peter Inchausti, metropolitan police commissioner, talks to Ludovic Kennedy. Page 11

INSIDE: Japanese arms boost. Japan's Self Defence Agency is expected to receive a 6 per cent increase in its budget for the 1989 fiscal year giving Japan the third largest defence budget in the world after the US and the Soviet Union.

Japan's defence budget for 1988 is 3.7 trillion yen (£16 billion). The increase sought by the military would mean Japan's total defence spending exceeds that of Britain, France and West Germany. Last month, Japan reassured South-East Asian countries about its defence spending. Details, page 6

Ulster offer. Talks between the IRA's political wing and moderate nationalists in the Social Democratic and Labour Party have been cloaked in secrecy for six months. In an interview with The Times Mr John Hume, the SDLP leader, offers to brief Ulster Unionist leaders on the talks. Page 4

TIMES FOCUS: What happens when an old-established boys' school takes in girl pupils? A Special Report on Oakham School seeks the answer. Pages 19-21

INDEX table with categories like Home News, Overseas, Business, Sport, etc.

Labour leader displays solidarity with Tambo



Brotherly embrace: Mr Oliver Tambo, leader of the ANC, greeting Mr Neil Kinnock at a brief meeting in Lusaka yesterday.

Kinnock urges restraint on ANC

From Philip Webster, Lusaka. Mr Neil Kinnock again highlighted his differences with the Prime Minister on South Africa as he held talks with the African National Congress in Lusaka yesterday and had a warm reunion with Mr Oliver Tambo, its president.

As public comments from the ANC leaders confirmed the divisions within its high command over extending its armed struggle to soft or civilian targets, Mr Kinnock cautiously urged restraint. Mrs Thatcher has branded the ANC a terrorist organization.

The Labour leader said that the ANC was well aware of his and his party's hostility to violence in pursuit of political ends and that the road of violence could only end in tragedy for the ANC.

Oil company to publish report on previous Piper Alpha leaks

By David Sapsted and Tim Jones

The operators of the stricken oil rig Piper Alpha yesterday bowed to mounting pressure over reports of gas leaks before last week's explosion and agreed to publish today an account of previous incidents.

Mr John Brading, Occidental UK's chief executive, who emphatically denied suggestions that warnings on leaks were ignored by the company, said he would publish the reports of any gas incidents that occurred up to two months before the blast that killed 166 people.

In Israel, where he was announcing new drilling in the region, Mr Armand Hammer, head of Occidental, insisted the platform was equipped with every safety device, and was given "a clean bill of health" by safety inspectors.

He had reported a leak to a safety officer. Yesterday, union chiefs announced a meeting later in the week on the explosion and platform workers' fears.

Two dead in blast on liner

From Mario Modiano, Athens. At least two people were feared dead and more than 20 were injured last night when a Greek cruise ship with 570 passengers on board, caught fire after a series of explosions.

Anger over 'single yard' frigate order

By Michael Evans and Richard Ford. The Government announced an order for three more frigates for the Royal Navy yesterday but then faced an angry attack from a major shipbuilding yard after it failed to win a contract for any of the warships.

Gorbachov makes withdrawal offer

From Richard Bassett, Warsaw. On the first day of his six-day visit to Poland, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov offered to withdraw Soviet air force units stationed in Eastern Europe and proposed a sweeping "elimination of asymmetrical Nato fields consisting of conventional armaments between Nato forces and the Warsaw Pact in Europe".

A demi-god descends from Heathrow's clouds

By George Hill. The clouds rolled back and the sun burst through. It had been drizzling only a moment before: how had they stage-managed that? A few of the thousand fans waiting on the roof of Terminal 2 at Heathrow Airport knew what they were looking for, and began to shriek knowingly as soon as a dot among the piling clouds resolved itself into an Airbus in Lufthansa blue and grey.

Advertisement for Oriel remortgage service. Includes text: 'DON'T GET CAUGHT IN THE REMORTGAGE TRAP', 'YOUR HOME IS A MONEY BOX!', 'Why not use it?', 'BANK LOANS AT AN APR OF ONLY 13.8%'.

Parliament

Parliament 8. more cautious in their response - Mr Tim Sainsbury, Under Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, indicated yesterday that the price offered by Yarrow had been highly competitive. One defence source said yesterday that the competition for the order had been "cutthroat".

Photographs

Photographs 24. 20s or younger, with a few older mums and dads who had brought carcyots and pushchairs so that their toddlers should have something to boast to their grandchildren about.

Continued on page 24, col 6

Continued on page 24, col 6. The placing of three frigate orders in one yard will severely damage the competitive tendering policy of the Ministry of Defence.

NEWS ROUNDUP

Narayan appeals over suspension

The Commission for Racial Equality is to be pressed to investigate alleged racial discrimination in the Lord Chancellor's Department after a Bar disciplinary tribunal yesterday ordered Mr Rudy Narayan, the Guyanese barrister, to be suspended from practice for 30 months.

Aids toll rises to 897

A further 29 people died of Aids in the United Kingdom last month, taking the toll to 897. Department of Health and Social Security figures also show the number of cases increased by 57 to 1,598.

Broadmoor dispute

Nurses at Broadmoor hospital in Berkshire began a work-to-rule campaign yesterday after eleven-hour talks to prevent a ban on overtime failed.

Marconi cuts jobs

Nearly 550 job cuts were announced yesterday by Marconi Radar, the electronics company. A spokesman said 450 jobs would be lost because of the closure of its factory at Gateshead.

Fan died in fall

Mr Philip Smith, aged 33, a football supporter who disappeared last month during the European Championships in West Germany, fell 200 ft to his death from a popular viewpoint after he had been drinking.

Ayatollah Khosroshahi

The Sunday Times apologized in the High Court, yesterday for an article by Amir Taheri which accused the former Iranian ambassador to the Vatican, Ayatollah Hadi Khosroshahi, of being the recruiting agent for a terrorist network.

Piper Alpha disaster: Skipper saw rescue craft blown out of water

'It was like seeing napalm burning'

By Michael Horsnell
The captain of the North Sea standby vessel, Sandhaven, called yesterday for posthumous gallantry medals for two crew members who died rescuing survivors of the Piper Alpha disaster.

minutes and the Sandhaven arrived after about 20 minutes", he said. "We got up to the rig and turned around to back in. I wanted to keep an eye on the rescue boat. They picked up four men out of the water and started to pull away when they saw two more men sliding down pipes from the rig."

move the Sandhaven away. It was an inferno on the rig. He said: "We were in total shock. We just hung around for two or three hours looking for survivors. We had to carry on with our jobs. We got permission to clear the area for lack of crew. It was then the feeling of desolation set in."

"I feel better now, having gone home to my family. But I'll never forget what happened that night. I never dreamed such an inferno was possible."

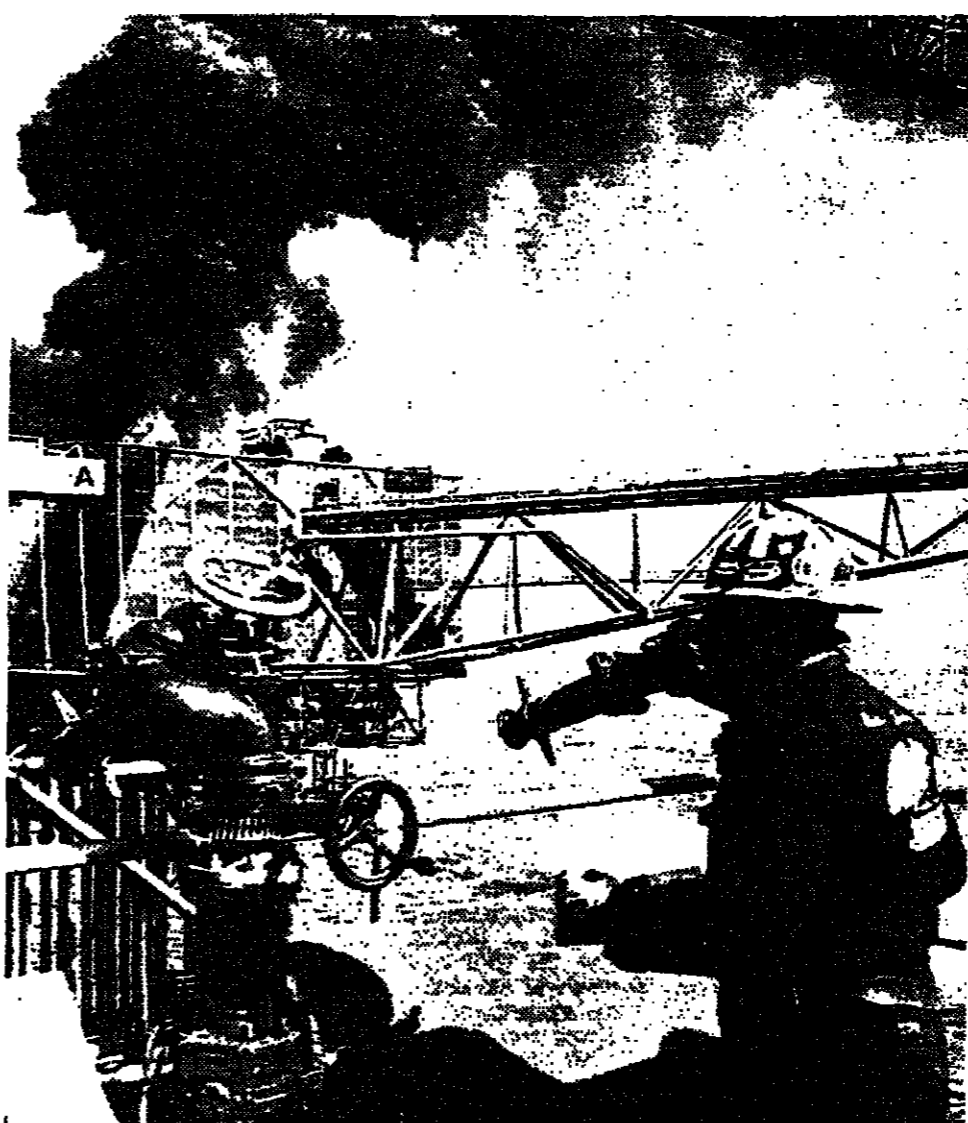
He will make his official report to inspectors from the Department of Trade and Industry in Aberdeen today.

Inquiry to examine secret report

By a Staff Reporter
The secret report by Department of Energy safety inspectors into the 1984 explosion on the Piper Alpha rig will be examined during the public inquiry into last Wednesday's catastrophe.

Wind-blown Adair is confident

By David Sapsted
The latest attempt by Red Adair's team to cap the blazing wells aboard the twisted remains of Piper Alpha were thwarted again yesterday as 35-knot winds lashed the stricken platform.



Red Adair on the Tharos yesterday as a crane lifts wreckage from the burning platform.

Conditions on the drilling module - the quarter of the platform that remains above sea-level after last Wednesday's explosion - were described as "pretty dreadful" by an Occidental executive.

Adair - who dislikes 'Mr' let alone his first name, Paul - scrambled on to the oil-slicked deck, clinging to a rope, in a feat defying his 73 years, early last Sunday.

clearing wreckage from around the 36 well heads was "going pretty good in our favour" in spite of the weather.

He did not know how long the job of capping the well pipes, either mechanically or

with a non-inflammable liquid, would take. "We are going as fast as possible and that is about all I can tell you. We will stay here till we finish."

Families press workers to resign

Oil workers from Piper Alpha's sister rig - who watched helplessly last week as 166 of their colleagues and, in some cases, relatives died on the burning platform - returned to Aberdeen yesterday, some vowing never to work offshore again.

Occidental operators of both the Piper and Claymore platforms, laid on special flights for workers who wanted to return home.

Mr Campbell Reid, offshore organizer for the Manufacturing, Science and Financial Union, said yesterday: "The men coming in from the rig, particularly from the Claymore, are getting enormous pressure from their families not to go back."

Kensington by-election

Labour in damage limitation exercise

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent
The Labour Party yesterday attempted to limit the political damage caused by highly critical remarks of its campaign in the Kensington by-election by its former candidate.

A statement from Mr Ben Bousquet, a local black councillor, was read at the party's daily press conference, claiming that his comments on Labour's effort to win the seat had been distorted, but which did not dispute their accuracy.

that he had signed the nomination papers of the party's candidate Mrs Ann Holmes. It said: "The Labour party is not committing suicide. It is winning in Kensington. I am voting Labour. I am campaigning for Labour and anyone who says otherwise is desperate for votes and living in dreamland."

Hoogstraaten is the natural product of Thatcherism. He is the free market philosophy at its most vicious. For him individualism means high rents, dilapidated flats and tenants unable to defend themselves against his tyranny because they are weak."

Mr Bousquet said in a personally signed statement that his comments had reflected his concern at the lack of visible support on the streets. The statement added

the controversy over Mr Bousquet's remarks threatened to overshadow a final attempt by senior Labour politicians to inject some "razzamatazz" into the party's campaign.

Labour tried to deflect attention from Mr Bousquet's statement with a demand that the Prime Minister condemn controversial landlord Mr Nicholas Hoogstraaten, and with strong criticism of Government policies on housing, health and the poll tax.

The by-election on Thursday has been caused by the death of Sir Brandon Rhys Williams, who held the seat for the Conservatives at the General Election with a majority of 4,447.

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Form for Expatriate Advisory Service with fields for Surname, Forename, Address, Tel. Home, Business, and a section for 'Please send me details of Barclays Expatriate Advisory Service'.

Industry 'cleared' on cancer clusters

A survey has cleared industry in North Humberside of responsibility for childhood cancer clusters in villages West of Hull.

Whitehall chief to abide by the rules

A senior Civil Servant has given MPs and the Comptroller and Auditor General a written undertaking that he will never again seek to undermine a National Audit Office investigation of his department's work.

Correction

Cambridge colleges other than Trinity College are not able to contribute to the new Isaac Newton Trust Fund established by Trinity, Mr Michael McCrum, vice-chancellor of the university, explained yesterday.

NOTICES AVAILABLE SUBJECT TO STATUS. SECURITY IS REQUIRED. WRITTEN CREDIT DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE FROM BARCLAYS EXPAT TRAVEL ADVISORY SERVICE.

Patients are 7 times more likely to die in some hospitals

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Patients are seven times more likely to die in some hospitals than others, according to a league table of mortality rates published yesterday.

The table, being submitted to the Prime Minister to be considered in the review of the health service, shows that one in seven patients admitted to hospitals in Halton health authority in Merseyside fails to leave hospital alive.

In Bloomsbury health authority, in central London, however, only one in 50 patients die in their hospital beds.

The analysis of mortality data, published by the Centre for Health Economics at York University for the first time nationally, suggests that some consultants are better than others and that some hospitals offer safer treatment than others.

The researchers point out that many factors have to be taken into consideration when comparing data, but they ar-

gue that instead of comparing efficiency between hospitals, the Government should be looking at standards of care.

Mr Paul Kind, a research fellow, said that when he allowed for demographic and case mix factors, Halton dropped out of the 10 worst districts because most of the patients admitted to hospital were over 65.

An analysis of standardized death rates when this is taken into account shows that the most "dangerous" places to go into hospital are North-west Surrey, North-west Hertfordshire and Grimsby.

One in 50 per cent more likely to die in these places than in hospitals with average mortality rates, and three times more likely to die than in the "safest" hospitals, found in Harrow and Bloomsbury.

Doctors have been opposed to the publication of death rates because it says that patients will be too frightened

to go into hospital with high mortality rates even when there is a good explanation.

Some diseases and operations, for example, have a high death rate merely because procedures are complicated and patients are gravely ill.

The York research shows for example that death rates are highest - about 18 per cent - for patients diagnosed with heart or circulatory disease.

The average death rate for infectious diseases throughout the country is 2.48 per cent, but in West Midlands the rate is 1.58 per cent, almost a quarter of the rate in East Anglia, which is 5.61, double the national rate.

Mr Kind's examination of death rates per consultant specialty shows wide variations between districts in certain specialties.

For example death rates among geriatric admissions exceed 20 per cent in all regions, but the highest rate is in East Anglia, 29.6 per cent.

Mersey with 12.6 per cent has the highest death rate among general medicine admissions, and 4.02 per cent among general surgery compared with Oxford, 9.4 per cent and 2.39 per cent respectively.

Last night Professor Alan Maynard, director of the Centre for Health Economics, said that until there was more information about health outcomes, no government could decide how best to spend its money.

Hospital deaths - the Missing Link: Measuring Outcome in Hospital Activity Data (Centre for Health Economics, York University, YO1 5DD; £5).

Death Rates in English Health Authorities

Authority	Cases	Deaths	Crude Rate	Expected Deaths	Mortality Ratio
Highest mortality rate in the country					
NW Hertfordshire	1,838	108	5.9	71.5	1,210
NW Surrey	1,073	100	9.3	66.7	1,500
Richmond/Twickenham	1,930	124	6.4	87.7	1,414
Rochampton	1,253	102	8.1	73.8	1,382
SW Dartmoor	1,010	86	8.4	61.7	1,378
Somerset	3,123	187	7.4	180.7	1,352
St Helena/Koovala	2,544	176	6.9	131.1	1,343
East Anglia	3,900	265	7.8	222.9	1,323
Bassetlaw	968	76	7.9	57.7	1,318
Chorley/S Ribbles	264	24	9.1	18.2	1,318
Lowest mortality rate in the country					
Harrow	2,202	75	3.4	129.9	0.577
Bromsgrove/Redditch	985	28	2.8	41.2	0.631
Barnet	5,825	126	2.2	205.6	0.644
Central Manchester	3,722	105	2.8	151.0	0.686
S Manchester	5,083	228	4.5	343.9	0.695
E Surrey	1,723	78	4.5	84.0	0.724
Hertfordshire	1,517	72	4.7	96.6	0.745
Nottingham	1,676	84	5.0	112.4	0.748
Orkney	6,336	241	3.8	320.3	0.752
Hammersmith/Fulham	4,983	208	4.2	275.3	0.758

Ministerial seminar resolves disputes

Television's future agreed

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

A ministerial seminar held in a quiet Hampshire market town yesterday cleared the way for the Government's far-reaching White Paper on broadcasting, due to be published in late August.

After more than a year's debate within Whitehall, often marked by in-fighting between the Home Office and Department of Trade and Industry, Mr Douglas Hurd organized the four-hour meeting in Silchester, where "broad agreement" was reached on key issues affecting the future of television in Britain.

The Home Secretary hoped a seminar in a rural retreat would succeed where the Cabinet subcommittee on broadcasting, chaired by the Prime Minister, had failed. Last night his mission to reach agreement on a series of coherent proposals for a policy blueprint appeared to have been successful.

"The meeting examined the options and carried forward discussions", a statement said. "It was a thoroughly useful meeting which reached broad agreement on the main issues, setting the foundations for the White Paper. Final decisions, of course, will be taken by

ministers before the White Paper is finalized." Mr Hurd was joined at the meeting by Lord Young of Graffham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Mr Timothy Reaton, the Home Office minister with responsibility for broadcasting; Professor Brian Griffiths, head of the policy unit at 10 Downing Street; and Sir Jeffrey Sterling, P&O chairman and a special policy adviser to the DTI. The Treasury was



Lord Young attended top-level talks yesterday.

not represented at the talks. The team concentrated on two areas: the future of ITV - including the number of regional stations after 1992 and the likely use of competitive tendering - and the options for additional television services such as microwave television, the creation of a fifth national channel, the use of "night hours" and cable and satellite developments.

The paper which will be produced as a result of yesterday's discussions and forwarded to the Cabinet subcommittee is likely to provide the basic framework for the White Paper.

After receiving endless submissions, proposals and documents from outside bodies, ministers have now decided "to draw the line and not wait for the next idea to come in". Mr Richard Dunn, managing director of Thames Television, yesterday agreed to become the new chairman of the ITV Association, the trade body which represents Britain's 15 regional stations. He accepted the two-year post only after receiving a commitment from fellow ITV chiefs about the future direction of the association.

Debut for Amadeus Piano Trio



The Amadeus Piano Trio, successor to the Amadeus Quartet disbanded after the death of its viola player Peter Schidlof, makes its London debut tonight in the City of London Festival. It comprises Norbert Brainin, violinist and former Quartet leader; Martin Lovett, Quartet cellist; and a newcomer in Arnaldo Cohen, the pianist (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

Police beat up fans in van, QC says

Three terrified Chelsea supporters got a taste of football violence at the hands of the police, Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mr Vaughan Gittings, Mr Oliver Farrer and Mr Keith Huxley were beaten up in the back of a police van before

being arrested on trumped up charges, Mr James Stewart, QC, for the prosecution, said.

Four members of Northumbria police's special patrol group deny 17 charges of wounding, assault, perjury and false imprisonment. One of them, PC Graham Clark, aged 29, is also charged with

attempting to pervert the course of justice by smashing his head into a wall and blaming the injury on one of the arrested fans.

Mr Stewart said PC Clark then rubbed the raw wound with matchbox sandpaper to make it worse. Then PC David Dorward, aged 31, PC

Keith Palin, aged 30, and PC George Laybourn, aged 33, "put their heads together to support Clark's story", Mr Stewart said.

Mr Stewart said a prison van driver who was present when PC Clark injured himself came forward. The trial continues today.

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Boon for first baby

Yesterday's daily Portfolio prize of £4,000 was shared between three winners, who will each receive £1,333.

Mrs Linda Danher, aged 36, a building society manager from Oxton, Merseyside, is expecting her first child in October and will spend her prize on it.

"It's a big bonus", she said. "I will go on maternity leave in eight weeks' time, and then I can start concentrating on the baby. Perhaps now it can have a four-wheeled pram after all."

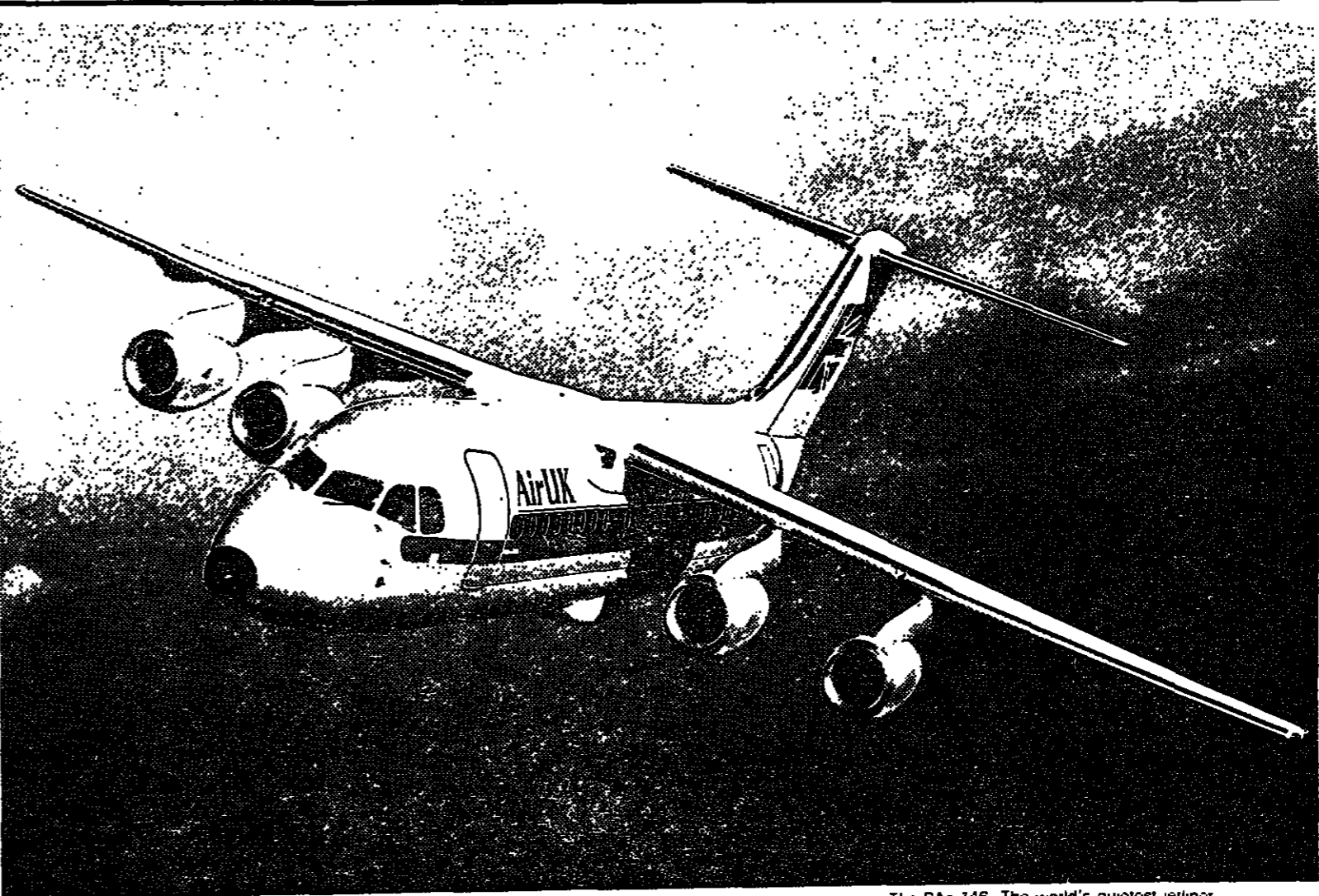
Mr Peter McNamara, aged 52, of Woodside Park, north London, hopes to use his winnings on household repairs, and perhaps go on holiday. He is a supplies officer for the National Health Service.

"I am delighted", he said. "It's a wonderful surprise at this time of the year. Of course, there are always so many mundane things to tend to that the money will be a great help."

The third winner is Mr Charles Revell, aged 37, an accountant from Sudbury, Suffolk. He intends investing most of his share on the stock market.



Mrs Linda Danher: money will be spent on baby.



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'Pub' pupils fate uncertain

By David Tytler, Education Editor

The future of 22 children who have been attending a makeshift school in a public house since September was in the balance yesterday, as two mothers began a High Court action on behalf of more than 20 families against their local education authority.

The parents wanted their children to attend the mainly-white Overthorpe Church of England School or Thornhill School in Dewsbury, West Yorkshire.

But they were told by Kirklees Education Authority that they must enrol at Headfield Church of England School, West Yorkshire, where 85 per cent of the pupils are Asian. The parents claim the authority has acted unlawfully.

In their written application, Mrs Sandra Lister and Mrs

Ann Littlewood, both of Thornhill Lees, Dewsbury, said that the council issued a document setting out a policy for improving race relations in schools.

This led to the introduction of the Planned Admission Limit (PAL) to reduce classroom racial imbalances.

The parents claim that the limits for Overthorpe and Thornhill were fixed artificially low for last September to force white pupils to attend Headfield.

They also argue that the council, by refusing admission to preferred schools, is in breach of its duty under the Education Act, and that it is operating a discriminatory policy against white children contrary to the Race Relations Act.

Miss Elizabeth Appleby, for the parents, told Lord Justice Glidewell and Mr Justice McCullough, that no-one

knew what would happen to the children while the deadlock continued.

The parents had been presented with an "unreal choice" when they were sent a form with three schools on it, asking them to state their preference. The fact was that only Headfield was available on the authority's figures.

The Director of Education for Kirklees, Mr Peter Davies, had prepared a report indicating that there was room at the schools and that there should be a decision in favour of the parents. But no evidence had been submitted by Mr Davies.

The parents originally accused the authority of failing to observe the 1944 Education Act ruling that school should begin with an act of Christian worship, but the court was asked yesterday to extend the charge to a complaint about lack of Christian instruction. The hearing continues today.

defended divorce cases were held in open court. Mr Sharma has refused to consent to a divorce after two years' separation, or to file his own petition for divorce on her admitted adultery. He was ordered recently to leave the former family home at Lanes End, Norton, Sefton.

If he successfully defends the action, Miss Seagrove must wait a further three years to seek a decree of separation without consent. The hearing continues today.

Actress's divorce action contested

Miss Jenny Seagrove, the actress, began a High Court action yesterday to obtain a divorce from her husband, Madhav Sharma, an actor-director.

Miss Seagrove, aged 30, alleges that Mr Sharma, aged 44, has behaved so unreasonably that the marriage has irretrievably broken down and she finds it intolerable to live with him.

Mr Sharma denies the allegations and that the marriage has broken down. He seeks a decree of judicial separation on the grounds of

her adultery with Mr Michael Winner, the film director.

Miss Seagrove, of Napier Close, West Kensington, west London, married Mr Sharma in May, 1984. They separated in July, 1986.

Miss Seagrove is represented by Mr Alan Ward, QC, in the Family Division hearing before Judge Callman.

Mr Sharma, who is representing himself, was refused a request for evidence to be given in closed session. Judge Callman said justice and the law demanded that

Vanishing school-leavers mean companies must retrain older staff to provide new skills

Fowler alerts firms on loss of a million young people

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

The Government is warning employers that Britain is steadily running out of young people and if they do not take immediate action they face serious recruitment difficulties.

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, said there would be one million fewer school-leavers in 1995, and those who are available would be like gold dust.

He was launching the first in-depth study of the implications for employers of fewer people in the labour market. It disclosed that most of the employers are unaware of the big reductions that are looming.

"We are moving into a period of massive demographic change", Mr Fowler said. "Our labour force will increase hardly at all during the 1990s."

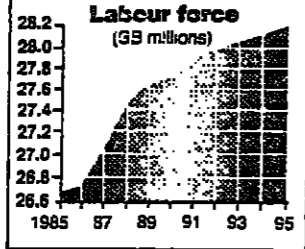
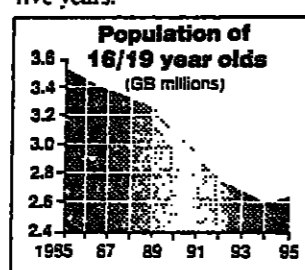
Mr Fowler said all that meant that employers who were alert to change and were ready to act would adapt successfully, but those who were not were likely to find themselves beset by recruitment and retention problems.

The survey, by the National Economic Development Of-

fice and the Training Commission, showed that only one in seven employers was well informed about the trends when the research was done in the spring.

The remainder were either unaware of the reductions in the numbers of young people entering the labour market or seriously underestimated them.

One employer in 10 believed that the numbers were likely to increase over the next five years.



The Government is launching a television and press advertising campaign to make employers more aware that between now and 1995 the number of 16 to 19-year-olds will fall by nearly one million to 2,600,000.

That is a 23 per cent drop over the next seven years. During the same period, 16 to 24-year-olds in the labour force will fall by 1.2 million, a decline of one fifth.

Mr Fowler said: "Young people are traditionally employers' main source of new recruits. In future employers will need to train and retrain existing adult employees to a far greater extent than ever before."

The decline is likely to be most pronounced in the North-west, Scotland, North and West Midlands but the effects were likely to be greater in regions with the most buoyant labour markets, particularly the South-east.

While the numbers fall, the total civilian labour force will continue to grow. Between 1987 and 1995 it is projected to rise by more than 900,000. More than four in five of the net additions will be women.

many returning to work after raising families.

The report underlines the need for employers to look to married women "returners" to help them to overcome the shortage. The Government predicts their numbers in the labour force will increase substantially.

The report also says that employers must take on more long-term unemployed and less well-qualified young people, where in-company training could help them to fill places previously reserved for better qualified entrants.

Mr Fowler said it was vital that employers should change their training strategies. Because of the shortage in school leavers they would have to look to the older employees.

The report says that employers had to increase their attractiveness to young people seeking jobs through improved school/industry liaison and better training and career prospects.

The report says employers would have to look to the unemployed; family women; former employees; and experienced workers who had retired.



Mr Fowler issuing a warning yesterday to employers that they will soon be running out of young people.

Sir John Cassels, director general of NEDO, said the worst affected would be those in manufacturing industry.

Merseyside is facing England's biggest percentage drop in young people - down 32.3 per cent by 1995, Mr

Peter Rylance, the Training Commission's area manager, said yesterday.

Young People and the Labour Market: A Challenge for the 1990s (NEDO Books, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QX; £8).

Over-40s 'not over the hill'

By Our Employment Affairs Correspondent

More companies are recruiting executives under the age of 40, but those who recruit them agree that the older person's executive skills improve, rather than decline, with age.

A survey carried out by MORI on behalf of British United Provident Association (Bupa) was presented at a symposium in London yesterday entitled "Over the Hill at 40?"

It showed that 73 per cent of recruitment specialists reported employers wanted their new executives to be under 40. Mr Roger Stubbs, who carried out the survey for MORI, said business in general was more geared now to younger people than it was in the past.

He said only one in 10 personnel directors agreed that youth was generally more important than experience and two thirds actively disagreed. "It is a case of going along with the fashion and playing the numbers game", he said.

"Each case ought to rest with the individual. While the average 30-year-old is sharper than the average 50-year-old, you are certainly not over the hill at 45."

Managers from recruitment and executive search com-

panies were given a list of 18 characteristics and were asked to say if they improved or declined with age. Age scored strongly on the ability to delegate, the ability to cope with change, the ability to manage others, loyalty and the ability to take responsibility.

Other characteristics which improved with age were "not panicking" and "keeping the right balance between work and home life".

Mr Stubbs said that one characteristic said to decline with age was "performance", although only 33 per cent of respondents thought it did while 20 per cent said it did not. Almost half the people questioned said age made no difference to performance at work.

Motivation was felt to be something which declined rather than improved with age, as was creative thinking, although the margins were not great.

Drive, or the ability to make things happen, was very much regarded as a youthful trait. Two thirds said it declined with age and only one in 10 thought it improved.

Significantly, the survey says, nearly two thirds of the personnel officers believed that health declined with age.

Ulster debate 'could produce ceasefire'

SDLP to renew Sinn Fein talks

By Paul Vallely

The Social and Democratic Labour Party is to continue talks with Sinn Fein, the political arm of the IRA, in spite of growing outrage over terrorism in Northern Ireland.

Mr John Hume, the SDLP leader, said yesterday he would refuse to break off talks, although his party faces renewed demands to do so since the killing of Warrant Officer John Howard in Belfast on Friday, the 400th British soldier to die since "the troubles" began in 1969.

Mr Hume told *The Times* that his discussions with Sinn Fein represented one of the most significant and positive developments in the province in the past two decades.

He believes the negotiations, over which both sides have maintained strict secrecy for six months, may bring an end to terrorism in the province in the long term.

The debate, he said, represented the first real attempt to tackle the causes of unrest in Northern Ireland, rather than the symptoms.

"I believe the Sinn Fein group participating is committed to the exploration that's taking place. The talks are genuine and serious."

"We are sitting face to face with people who have not sat face to face before. That very act in itself is different and means that what is happening is being taken seriously."

Mr Hume, anxious not to jeopardize the process, was reluctant to divulge details of the talks. However, reliable sources said the SDLP had adopted "the theology of republicanism" to confront Sinn Fein with the internal contradictions of the IRA's current position.

Much of the debate centres around Britain's motives in

"Will the British Army be prepared to send its men out to risk their lives for something the Government has announced will be abandoned?"

"Mentally at least, they would withdraw to their barracks, leaving a political vacuum."

"The two communities would then withdraw behind barricades in their own territory, creating a number of no-go areas like those in Beirut."

"The 12,000 armed members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and the 8,000 armed members of the Ulster Defence Regiment would find there was no middle ground and would revert to their old sectarian sympathies."

"What would happen to the vulnerable Catholic community then? It would be a recipe for disaster."

The document suggests the IRA should reconsider its



Mr John Hume: trying to tackle causes of unrest.

methods, unless they are more sacred than its cause.

The debate between the SDLP and Sinn Fein has already borne some fruit.

At a recent "glasnost" conference in Belfast, Sinn Fein delegates discussed the "internal contradictions" between violence and their political work.

Afterwards, Mr. Mitchell McLoughlin, one of the most prominent of the new Provisional thinkers, acknowledged that the consensus was clearly in favour of broadening Sinn Fein's political base and reassessing its attitude to the SDLP.

"The process is about planting seeds for the future", one insider said.

The "glasnost" debate within Sinn Fein is expected to be carried forward to its next policy-making conference in Dublin next January, but it will probably not be until the next annual meeting that any changes will become official policy.

"It usually takes the Provisionals a couple of years to assimilate and adopt new ideas."

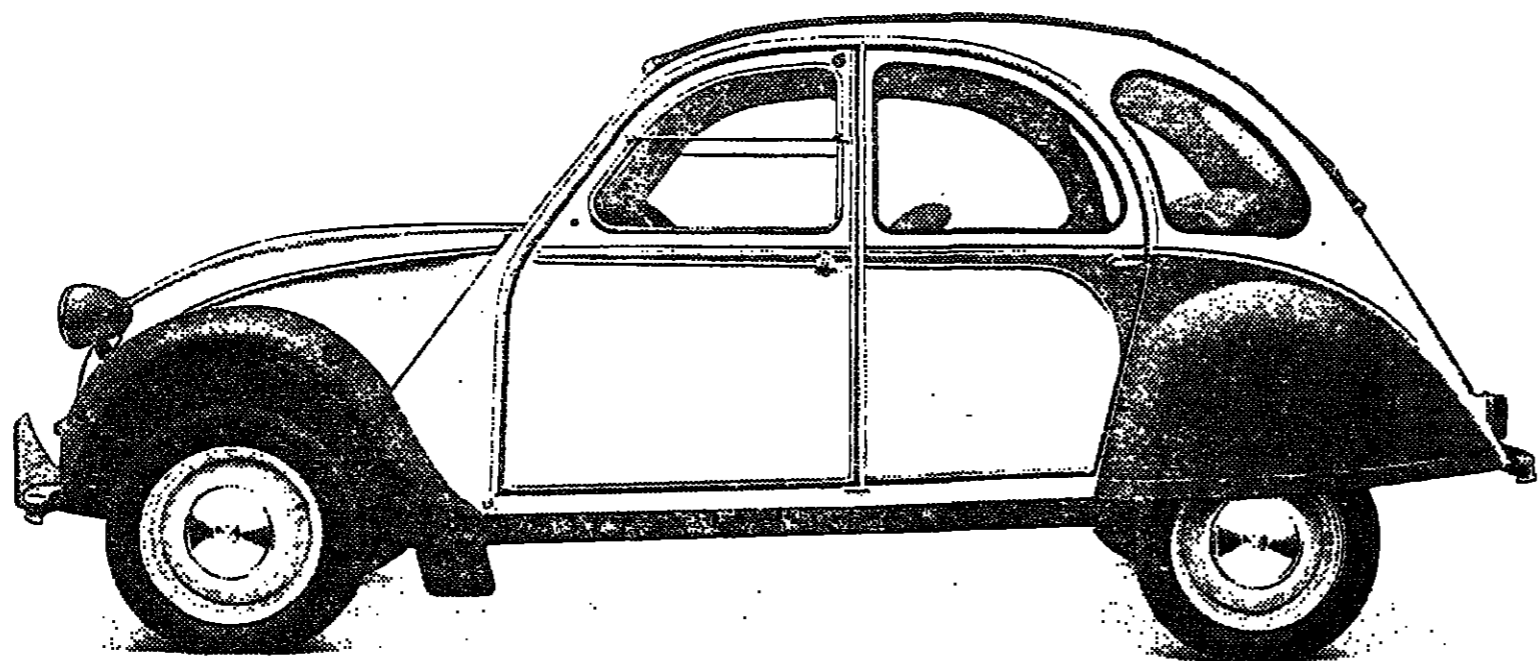
"That's how long it took Mr Adams to get through the decision for Sinn Fein to end its policy of not standing in general elections in the South", one IRA observer said.

"But by 1990, we could be talking about Gerry Adams taking his seat in Westminster, wider social and political action by Sinn Fein in the North, a broad pan-nationalist alliance between them and the SDLP and Fintona Hill, and possibly even an IRA ceasefire."

Conor Cruise O'Brien, page 14

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Barristers consider 'no win, no fee' offer to defendants

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Barristers in England and Wales are to consider basing their fees for certain civil cases on the results.

The Bar has set up a working group of practising barristers to examine the implications of contingency fees. The group will study American experience.

The inquiry, announced by Mr Robert Johnson, QC, chairman of the Bar, takes further a recommendation of the recently published Civil Justice Review for a re-examination of the ban on such arrangements.

Growing interest in American-style contingency arrangements coincided with the launching by a Scottish solicitor of his own company to take on personal injury and accident claims on a "no win, no fee" basis. Mr Frank Lefevre intends to form a network of firms throughout the United Kingdom.

The working group set up by the Bar, which is to be chaired by Mr Francis Ferris, QC, will consider arrangements by which a lawyer is paid only if he is successful on behalf of his client. For example, if the client loses the lawyer will

receive nothing; but, if he wins the client will pay to the lawyer costs assessed by the court which he is awarded against the losing party.

The group will also study other arrangements by which the lawyer is paid a proportion of the money recovered or preserved for the client in litigation.

The group will consider the changes that would be necessary in the law and in the rules of the profession to allow contingency arrangements.

A key issue is the advantages or disadvantages to the public. This would include the position of successful defendants of a claim by a plaintiff who was not able to meet an award of costs against him. If the system were ever implemented, part of the gamble of going to law would be switched from the client to the barrister, who would be financially backing his own judgement that the case had a reasonable chance of success. Mr Johnson said: "This is a very difficult issue which we are approaching with a completely open mind. There are strong arguments on both sides". A contingency fees

system had operated in America for many years although "it is by no means certain that they would be appropriate in our rather different system of justice". It was obviously a matter which was due for a fresh look, Mr Johnson said.

The Law Society is also preparing a report for the autumn on responses to a consultation document which examined three types of funding of litigation.

One is the straightforward "no win, no fee" approach. A second type would be a legal aid fund financed by contingency fees: the litigant would get support from the fund on condition that if he won his case he would contribute a proportion of his winnings to the fund.

The third would be a fixed cost scheme. Instead of contributing a part of the winnings at the end of the case, the litigant would put money "up front" at the beginning.

That would in effect be a premium in a form of insurance against losing. The money would also go towards subsidizing people who lost cases.

Biker prepares for lion dance



Driver Kan Kit Keung, of 29 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport Motorcycle Display Team, working on a motorized lion dance which will be performed at the Royal Tournament in London from July 13 to 30 (Photograph: Bryn Colton).

Air UK wins flight routes to Scotland

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Air UK, the Stansted-based carrier with a network of services in Britain, has been granted a licence to operate routes between Gatwick, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

The Civil Aviation Authority ruled yesterday that Air UK should take over the former British Caledonian routes, surrendered by British Airways.

Mr Stephen Hanscombe, managing director of Air UK, said last night that the decision was "a feather in the cap" of Air UK, a subsidiary of British and Commonwealth Shipping which was formed in 1980 and in which the Dutch airline KLM has a 14.9 per cent stake.

Air UK will operate four services a day on each route, and will hire additional staff to launch the flights in October.

The authority also granted a licence to Dan Air yesterday to fly between Gatwick and Manchester, and formally gave approval to British Airways to carry passengers travelling on international services on the same route.

The authority said its ruling was "in line with the policy of encouraging a multi-airline industry".

Insurance plan proposed for disaster victims

By David Nicholson-Lord

A "no fault" compensation scheme aimed at victims of disasters such as the Bradford stadium fire and based on the private insurance market was proposed yesterday by a leading solicitors firm.

Under the scheme, companies and public bodies would buy personal insurance for visitors to their premises which

would be paid out automatically after an accident. Negligence would not have to be proved. The scheme, devised by Davies Arnold and Cooper, solicitors for the North-west Water Authority in the Abbotsford explosion case, won support from top insurers.

Mr Alan Fisher, a partner with Davies Arnold and Cooper, said it took seven

years on average to settle a personal injury case in Britain. The Abbotsford case cost £7 million, but only £3 million went in damages to victims. Firms would adopt the scheme out of self-interest. "Big companies spend millions of pounds on advertising. If they have an Abbotsford or a Bradford, no amount of millions will ever replace their public standing", he said.

Countryside development

20% rise in rural tourism planned

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

A scheme to increase spending by tourists in the countryside by 20 per cent over the next four years was launched yesterday by Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Employment.

The scheme is the brainchild of the English Tourist Board. Mr Duncan Bluck, the board's chairman, said in London yesterday: "Rural economies faced with change or decline can diversify through tourism and benefit from this thriving industry". He said that Mr Fowler's support demonstrated government recognition of its potential.

Tourism was worth an estimated £3,000 million a year to the rural economy, and land released from agricultural production offered big opportunities for leisure development.

In addition to attracting new investment, the board wanted to introduce more training schemes to improve management and marketing, raise standards at existing attractions, and improve and

extend accommodation, particularly in public houses and on farms.

Development funds worth £13 million were available from the board this year, and rural tourism would be one of the priorities, Mr Bluck said.

The scheme is supported by the Rural Development Commission, the Countryside Commission and the Forestry Commission, which will help to promote footpaths, access to farms and the use of woods and forests. Exhibitions and displays of rural industries will also be encouraged.

However, the scheme has not been universally welcomed. The Council for National Parks said yesterday that the development of large-scale tourist facilities posed a grave threat to national parks.

It cited applications to build holiday complexes in the Brocken Beacons, the Peak District and on the Pembrokeshire Coast. A typical development included up to 240 timeshare lodges set in several acres with a central leisure complex.

Fears for future of Moore trophy

By Simon Tait

The future of the Museum of the Year Award trophy, a Henry Moore porcelain sculpture, was uncertain as it was presented yesterday for the last time under the present sponsorship.

The Illustrated London News, sponsor since the competition began 16 years ago, is withdrawing and the new sponsor is expected to be British Gas.

The sculpture, entitled "Moonhead", was bought from Henry Moore in 1972 by Mr James Bishop, then editor of the ILL, for a "knockdown price" of £1,200.

The magazine and all its assets, which include the sculpture, have since been bought by Sea Containers Group and Mr James Sherwood, its chairman. The small trophy may now be worth at least £15,000.

"It was not specially commissioned and there were no strings attached", Mr Bishop, now editor-in-chief of Illustrated London News publications, who presented this year's award to the Bradford Museum of Photography, Film and Television, said.

"I have been asked to find out the market value of the piece, but no decision has been made. The trophy will stay with the Bradford Museum for the next year. The new sponsors may by then have decided that there ought to be a new trophy."

But one of the award's founders, the writer and broadcaster Kenneth Hudson believes Moore's intention was different. "There wasn't any point in him letting them have it at that price if he was not certain that it would not be sold for a huge profit."

Rare island totem sells for £220,000

By Jenny Gilbert

The Rev J. Williams did a thorough job of cleaning up the Polynesian island of Rarotonga in 1823, apparently removing its entire population of "staff gods" - carved wooden totems representing local deities, stuck into the ground.

There are now no more than six in existence and only one in private circulation, which yesterday sold just above estimate at £220,000 at Sotheby's.

The second top price of £27,500, paid by a London dealer for an elegantly curved wooden dance paddle from Easter Island was "disappointing", according to Mr Roberto Fainello, of Sotheby's. "It is notoriously difficult to date tribal art, but evidence that the paddle was carved with a stone tool, rather than a metal

one, dates it before the arrival of Captain Cook in 1776, and that makes it very old and rare for a tribal piece." The estimated was £40,000-£60,000.

From a group of Maori items a fairly common "tikiti", or carved pendant worn round the neck, fetched £18,150, against its estimate of £6,000-9,000. Tikis normally sell for around £1,500 but this example was at least twice the usual size and would have required a Goliath to support its weight. The sale totalled £489,632.

At Sotheby's sale of antiquities bidding was patchy but Attic vases sold well. A Mycenaean pottery chalice from the 13th century BC, estimate £3,000-4,000, went for £26,400.

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Tokyo reassures its southern neighbours

Japan to become third largest defence spender

From Brian Robins Tokyo

Japan's Self Defence Agency is seeking a 6 per cent boost in its defence budget for 1989 which is likely to result in Japan emerging with the third largest defence budget in the world, trailing only the United States and the Soviet Union. Japan's defence budget for 1988 is to reach 3.7 trillion yen (£16 billion).

As Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries and Kawasaki Heavy Industries. With the steady increase in Japan's defence budget, domestic companies are keen to expand further into this area, since it promises an assured growth in the future.

lengthy campaign while Prime Minister to increase Japan's defence spending above the 1 per cent limit of GNP imposed in the late 1960s. Despite stiff public opposition, Mr Nakasone will finally prevail in 1986, laying the groundwork for an even larger increase in Japan's defence spending.



Mr Nakasone: Campaigning for increased defence spending. Companies have an acknowledged technical leadership. The gradual lifting of the veil surrounding Japan's defence activities marks a continuation of the steady increase in the country's international profile.

ing its defence wings was taken in 1981 when it undertook to defend its sea lanes up to 1,000 miles from Japan to ensure that its main shipping lanes remained secure during any potential disturbance. This was followed in 1986 by the scrapping of the long-held policy which limited Japan's defence spending to less than 1 per cent of GNP.

the Second World War still uppermost in the minds of many leaders in the region. Mr Lee, one of the most trenchant critics of Japan's defence build-up, has become more mellow in recent statements. In an interview with a Japanese magazine he argued that the US was becoming relatively weaker in the Asian region.

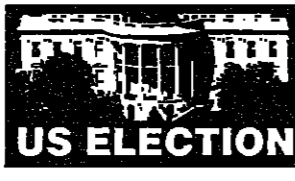
rise is still expected to keep the defence budget not far above 1 per cent of Japan's GNP. Japan now ranks 10th in the world in defence spending in terms of GNP. In terms of the ratio to total Government spending, Japan's defence effort will still be far below that of Western countries.

Exasperated Dukakis loses patience with defiant Jackson claims

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Governor Michael Dukakis, the apparent Democratic nominee for the presidency, has lost patience with the Rev Jesse Jackson, his defiant and sole remaining rival. After holding his tongue for days while Mr Jackson needed him with protests over his likely choice of a running mate, the content of the platform and implied threats of opposition at the convention, Mr Dukakis remarked testily: "Jesse Jackson can do anything he wants to do. I'm going to the convention and I'm going to win it."

his way to avoid alienating Mr Jackson and to win his support for whomever he picks as a vice-presidential running mate. In a rare gesture, he and his wife entertained the Jacksons at home during the July 4 holiday. Since then, however, Mr Jackson has taken a more outspoken and defiant line. His aides suggested last week that he might leave the convention hall and speak outside if a platform debate intruded on his scheduled prime-time speech. Such a move would be a slap in the face for Mr Dukakis, and a signal to Mr Jackson's supporters that he was not being accorded due respect. The Chicago clergyman later denied he was planning this, but spoke about the "creative tension" between his campaign and that of Mr Dukakis. "I cannot assume responsibility for their lack of understanding of our struggle to change the country," Mr Jackson said. "Ours is an endless campaign. Those who look for the



US ELECTION

Gorbachov on tour as Armenians demonstrate



Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, with his wife, Raisa, clutching a typical Polish puppet presented to the couple by children at Warsaw airport yesterday when the smiling Gorbachovs began a six-day official visit to Poland.

Moscow (Reuter) — More than 100,000 demonstrators gathered in the Armenian capital, Yerevan, yesterday while factories stayed shut and tensions remained high over the Nagorno-Karabakh issue, officials said. The rally took place after Mr Suren Aramyan, the Armenian Communist Party leader, said Karmalin had agreed to discuss the five-month crisis over the disputed Armenian region. The governing council of Nagorno-Karabakh also called a meeting for today to discuss the continuing tug-of-war between Armenia and Azerbaijan over control of the disputed territory. Yesterday morning's 90-minute rally outside the Institute of Ancient Palaeontology in Yerevan was the latest in a series of mass demonstrations supporting Armenian demands to transfer Nagorno-Karabakh out of Azerbaijan administration. Most people in Yerevan remained on strike yesterday, a spokesman for the official Novosti press agency said. The week stoppage was called a week ago to support demands for the transfer of the region to Armenia. Warnings ignored: Armenians ignored pleas and warnings from Communist Party officials to return to work as the Army increased patrols in Yerevan yesterday. Residents rushed by telephone from Moscow and public transport had ground to a halt and factories and businesses remained closed.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Stay-awake strike at Greek airports

Athens — Greek air traffic controllers yesterday began a hunger and stay-awake strike to disqualify themselves from duty on medical grounds (Mario Modiano writes). They resorted to their unusual industrial action after the Greek Government ordered their civil mobilization on June 23 to stop them from striking for better conditions and safety. A spokesman said: "Within 48 hours most of us will be in hospital suffering from exhaustion." They expect airlines to stop using Greek airports or overflying Greece since hungry and sleepless controllers could not safely handle the overcrowded summer air traffic. If the strikers persevere, 1,800 flights a day using the Athens region could be affected.

Israel counts the cost

Jerusalem — The Palestinian uprising, which began seven months ago, has cost Israel 1 billion shekels (£360 million) in lost revenue from exports, tourism and reduced production, with a further 270 million shekels needed for defence and 8 million shekels for extra policing (Ian Murray writes). The cost was revealed in this week's Cabinet meeting by Mr Gad Yaakobi, the Economy and Planning Minister and Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Defence Minister. Meanwhile 10 Knesset members from opposition parties on both the right and left have started a hunger strike in an effort to force the Government to resolve the health crisis, which has been rumbling on for more than a year. They have pitched tents outside the office of Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister — who has done his best to stay outside the dispute — where they have been holding "surgeries" for aggrieved doctors, nurses and patients.

Atlantic solo record

Newport, Rhode Island (AP) — Mrs Denise St Aubyn Hubbard, left, a 64-year-old Briton, has become the oldest woman to sail across the Atlantic Ocean alone. Mrs St Aubyn Hubbard, a 1948 Olympic diver, arrived here on Saturday after a 34-day voyage plagued by equipment failures, one of the last finishers in the Carlsberg single-handed transatlantic yacht race.

Chiangs in decline

Taipei (Reuter) — Waving a white handkerchief to cheering delegates at a congress of the ruling Nationalist Party, Madame Chiang Kai-shek, the ageing widow of China's wartime leader, bowed off the political stage which was dominated for almost four decades by the Chiang dynasty. Only two family members, Mr John Chang, a Deputy Foreign Minister, and Mr Chiang Hsiao-yung, who is a businessman now running several Nationalist Party enterprises — both sons of the late President Chiang Ching-kuo — won nominations to key party posts.

Americans question faith in hi-tech weaponry

From Michael Binyon Washington

Beyond the embarrassment and defiant official self-justification of the Airbus disaster, several questions are increasingly being voiced by ordinary people. Has the United States put too much faith in weapons so advanced that they are virtually inoperable? Should the US be building billion-dollar warships unsuited to the low-level warfare in the Gulf and most local conflicts in the world? Has the US been suckered into buying ever more expensive hardware by the powerful military-industrial complex — whose huge financial stakes and corrupt contracting practices are only now being revealed?

national tests last year, one ship using the system shot down only six of 21 targets. Just before a funding vote in May 1984, a test showed miraculous results in detecting low-altitude surprise attacks. Mr John Lehman, the former Navy Secretary — whose office has been implicated in the procurement bribery scandal — said the Aegis was the most carefully tested combat system ever built, and that "all operational requirements have been met or exceeded". But, in the light of the bribery scandal, such assurances are less convincing. America has been shocked

to learn that other expensive new weapons were kept in development although they failed the tests, because contractors used their influence to keep the programmes going. Manufacturers try to influence the Pentagon, via consultants, or go directly to Congress, where they can promise lucrative contracts to congressmen's home districts. Indeed, the Pentagon has frequently complained that it has been unable to scrap unnecessary weapons or has been forced to choose a weapons system it does not want because of congressional pressure.

Criticism has centred on the vaunted Aegis battle-management system. Cruisers equipped with this system, named after the magical shield of the Greek god, Zeus, that made opponents tremble, cost \$1.2 billion (£588 million) each, destroyers nearly \$1 billion. But, as *The New York Times* remarked: "The modern Aegis has a way to go before it makes anyone tremble, except maybe the taxpayer."

President Eisenhower's farewell warning about the corrupting power of the military-industrial complex does indeed seem to have come true. People are beginning to ask whether, if the Strategic Defence Initiative is ever fully developed, it would be wise to trust America's defence to a system where the chances of catastrophic technological

failure must be hundreds of times greater. The Airbus disaster has underlined a trend that has increasingly worried some defence analysts: the oversophistication of weaponry of all kinds, and the reliance on high technology in the battlefield — or at sea — at the expense of cheaper, simpler, more reliable weapons and tactics. The Vincennes was loaded with equipment for high-technology warfare via radar screen, supposedly more reliable than a man standing on the bridge with binoculars. But it could not tell the difference between an Airbus and an F14. Weapons systems have now become so expensive and complex that only a few can be built. But they need a PhD to operate them, and if a single computer element fails, US forces are naked and vulnerable. The Russians, by contrast, stick with proven, cheaper weapons, which they turn out in larger quantities. And if they break down in the heat of battle it takes only an ordinary soldier to hit them with a spanner to get them going.

Aids virus lurking in New York beach flotsam

From Charles Bremner New York

Fear of Aids kept thousands of swimmers away from New York's suburban beaches despite a continuing heatwave yesterday as state officials sought signs of the deadly virus in syringes and blood vials which have been washed up on the Atlantic shore around the city over the past week.

At various times, 25 miles of beaches, including Staten Island and the Jones and Robert Moses State Parks were closed to swimmers because of the debris. The likely origin of the debris has been confusing the local authorities. Dr Joseph said initially he believed the syringes had been left by drug addicts on the beaches. Yesterday, he said the origin was not clear. "From this whole episode, we now understand that needles on the beach are part of the ecology of New York, just as crack (cocaine derivative) vials in Washington Square,"

New York and a number of other American cities are at a loss over how to get rid of their refuse.

Some have won temporary relief by exporting it — to Britain, among other nations. But New York, which turns out twice as much waste per citizen as the cities of Western Europe, turned away from that option after the fiasco of its "garbage barge" which returned fully laden to the city after sailing for the southern seas in a vain search for a dumping ground last year. The beach pollution has also heightened a sudden return to anxiety over damage to the environment. After years of being ignored, the environmental issue has leapt back into the headlines and editorial pages with news that the current drought may have been triggered by atmospheric pollution and that man-made gases are destroying the ozone layer and causing skin cancer.

Concern
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lorries

Waste
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Waste
under fire

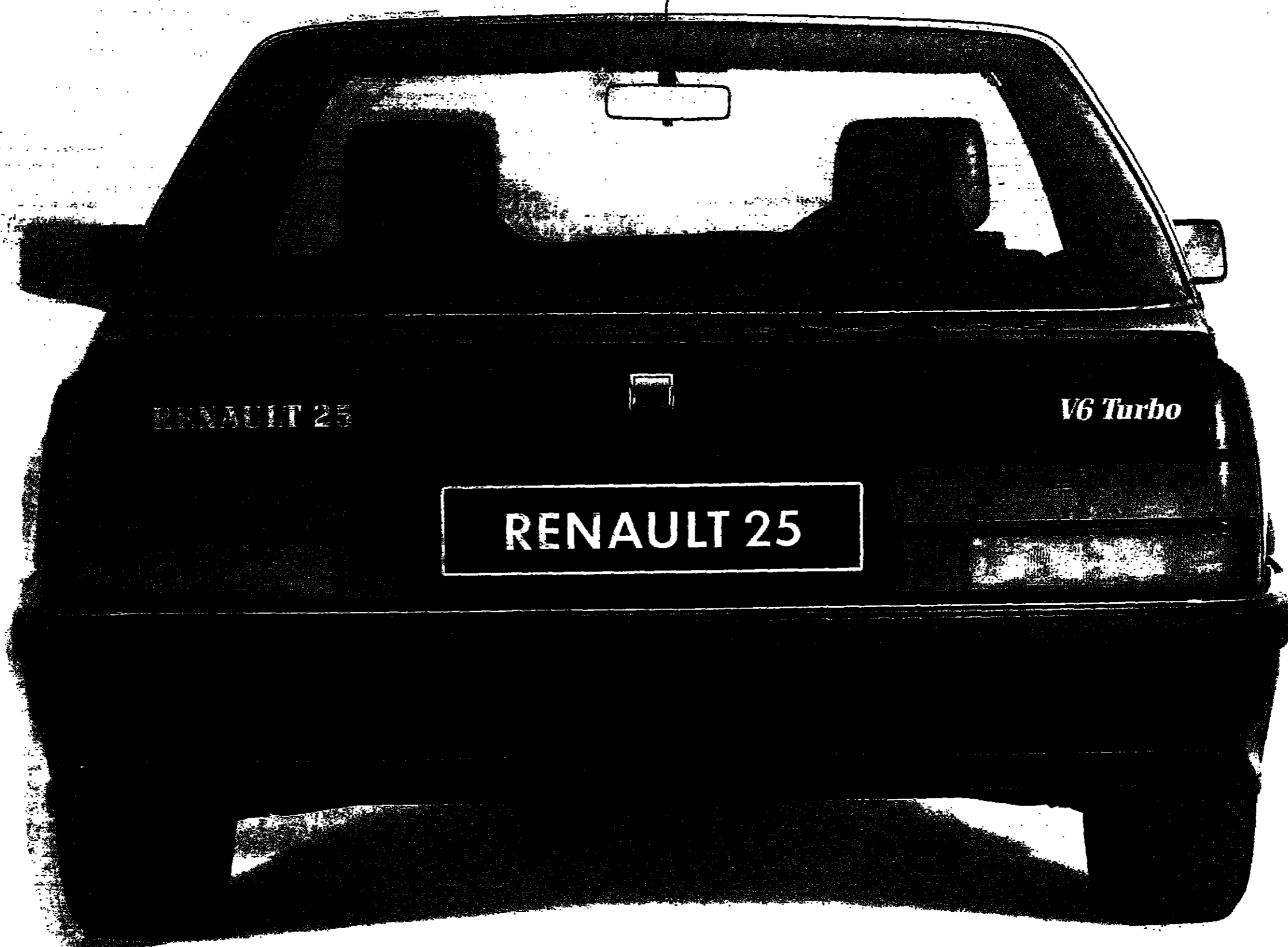
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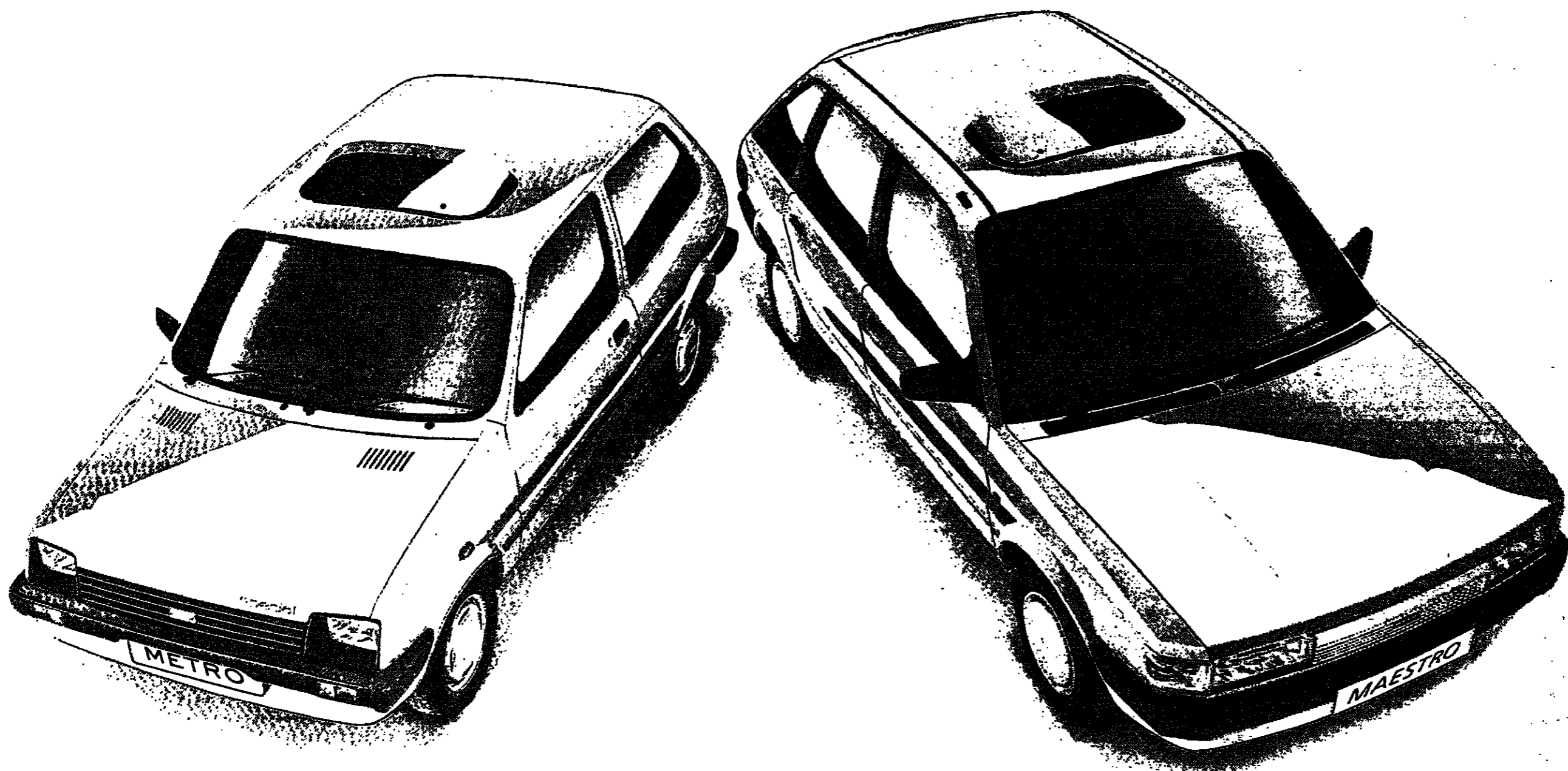


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	Minimum Deposit £	36 Monthly Payments £	Charge for Credit £	Total Amount Payable £		Minimum Deposit £	36 Monthly Payments £	Charge for Credit £	Total Amount Payable £
9.3% APR	990.00	125.80	568.80	5518.80	9.3% APR	1250.00	158.85	718.60	6968.60
7.1% APR	1485.00	106.92	384.12	5334.12	7.1% APR	1875.00	135.01	485.36	6735.36
5.6% APR	1980.00	89.66	257.76	5207.76	5.6% APR	2500.00	113.21	325.56	6575.56

The new Metro and Maestro Specials.

FASHION by Liz Smith

Made to measure and treasure

Behind many well-dressed women is a well-kept secret — a dressmaker who sews to order

Even a good friend can be maddeningly evasive at times. There she is in a particularly pretty new jacket that is obviously new. With its curvy shoulder line and gently rolled collar it looks suspiciously like an Armani. "Thank you... No, it's not really from anywhere," is her unhelpful response to your curiosity. Could it be you missed such a chic number when you were last in M & S? It fits so perfectly. Aha, that's it. She's had it made.

Having clothes custom-made, seemingly a luxury of the past in today's off-the-peg world, is the way many women choose to build up precisely the wardrobes they want. It is the way a hard-up student or a deb ensures that her dance dress is unique. It is how a bride can have her dream dress. It is the means by which a clever woman can acquire designer style, either by having something created exclusively for her or by getting a Valentino or Lacroix copied from *Vogue*.

The traditional "little woman" around the corner who ran up a silk suit in a week, let out the seams of an old skirt or undertook an entire bridal retinue has been replaced by a nationwide network of savvy dressmakers and tailors, talented men and women who know their Kenzo from their Karan and operate a flourishing form of couture a mere whisper of silk thread lower than *haute*. Price matches the quality you demand, from £30 for a shirt or skirt to several hundred pounds for a lavish couture number made with a toile (when the fit is established in calico before the cloth is cut).

New clients are "introduced" by friends; clutching pages torn from the glossies and scraps of fabric, members of the clique pass each other on the stairs on their way to fittings. Along with picking up the nuances of an Ungaro peplum, a dressmaker learns tact, to ensure no similar dresses are seen twirling at the same party.

The new breed of dressmakers practising the civilized craft of the tailor-made have learnt their trade at art school or by "picking up pins" for a top couturier. A surprising number are Mrs Bailey's girls, alumni of Elizabeth Bailey's school in Kensington, London, where between A levels and university they can fit in a term or two learning dressmaking. They can tack a crinoline inside a puffball in their sleep.

John Cahill, St Martin's-trained and a former assistant to Victor Edelstein, works from his small house in London's Shepherd's Bush. His price is high, but while hunting for the best faille or double duchesse satin from Taroni in Milan, he is likely to track down the shoes and run up a hair bow to wear with the outfit. For Lady Rayne, who needed a dress for the theatre, he produced two different cummerbunds — one in shocking pink, one beaded in jet — to give versatility to a black cashmere and satin dress. A strapless velvet number for Anne Peto, a partner in the interior decorating firm of George Spencer, has an optional halter plus a tight long-sleeved bolero. "We wrap, we twist, we play around with fabric," Peto says. "It's the plotting and sketching that are so much fun."



BEST DRESS MAKERS

A guide to Britain's recommended dressmakers. Prices do not include fabric unless otherwise stated.

● Annelise Arthur: Green Acre, Kings Ride, Ascot, Berkshire (0990 22648); bridesmaid's dress from £60; evening dress £80.

● Debbie Ayrton-Grime: 304 Munster Road, SW6 (01-381 2277); designs in consultation with client; uses toile; wedding dress £450; evening dress £150; suit £130. Hand-embroidery, pearl and crystal-beaded wedding dresses a speciality.

● Amanda Barber (with Jennifer Bryant): 59 Dorothy Road, SW11 (01-228 6055); uses toile. Skirt £70; evening dress £250; wedding dress £800.

● Margaret Beall: The Roundels, Stonegate, Wadhurst, Sussex (0435 883289); suit £70; ballgown £70; wedding dress £200.

● John Cahill: 4 Hoppogood Street, W12 (01-740 5562); trained St Martin's; assistant to Victor Edelstein; couture cloth, trimmings and toile for high society clients; prices from £800 include fabric.

● Shireen Corlett: Ballaugh, Isle of Man (062 489 7524); trained by Mrs Bailey; embroidered and beaded wedding dresses a speciality; creates own designs or happy to copy old favourites. Wedding dress from £200-£600; dance dress £200; special occasion suit £150.

● Camilla Cottrell: 20 Westmorland Place, SW1 (01-834 4812); Mrs Bailey trained, uses toile; specializes in weddings; dance dress £200; wedding dress £400.

● Rose Coutts-Smith: 53 Abbey Business Centre, 15 Ingate Place SW8 (01-720 9807); former theatrical costumier; cocktail frock, £250; ballgown £450; wedding dress £800.

● Yvonne Franklin: Fitzwilliam, Hatch Lane, Windsor, Berkshire (0753 864090); apprenticed to couturier John Cavanagh; tailoring a speciality; suits start at £200; wedding dress (many with hand-embroidery) from £200; will work from a pattern.

● Donald and Fiona Fraser: 51 Forth Street, North Berwick (0620 4220); husband and wife team; he weaves fabric in wool and silk or linen/wool mix; she designs; golfing blouson £60 and culottes in tartan £70; wedding dress £400.

● Anna French: 8 St George's Mansions, SW1 (01-821 8143); wedding dresses, £500; ballgowns from £100 for a strapless style; suits £100; jackets £50, skirts £30.

● Paul Golding: 93 Cheyne Walk, SW10 (01-352 2331); clients include Evangeline Blahnik and Duchess of York; prices "astronomical"; £800 up, including fabric.

● L & L Designs: 26 Chelsea Square, SW3 (01-351 0195); Lucy Shapland and Lisa London both trained by Mrs Bailey; specialize in hand-beaded wedding dresses, £400; short, snappy evening frocks, £150; special occasion maternity clothes, from £45 for basic skirt to £150; silk underwear, from £25.

● Michelle Montagu-Scott: Winden Knolls, Marley Common, Haslemere, Surrey (0428 3505); day dress £75; ballgown £100; wedding dress £600; designs or adapts *Vogue* patterns.

● Bill Pashley: 7 Juer Street, SW11 (01-228 8721); shot to fame in 1981 in the wake of sudden celebrity of customers Mrs Frances Staud-Kild and her three Spencer daughters.

● Caroline Scott: Wasp Studios, Room 214, Patriot Hall, Stockbridge, Edinburgh (031 226 3160); makes for men too; shirt £35-£40; suit from £250 (women), £300 (men); evening dress £200; wedding dress £400.

● Judy Umfreville: 11 Belgrave Road, Barnes, SW13 (01-741 3555); trained at Hardy Amies; with Queen's tailor, Mr Michael; 8-panel skirt £80; soft suit £165; evening dress £250; wedding dress (piping a speciality) £430.

● The Workroom runs three 13-week terms a year, Monday, 10am-4.30pm. For prospectus and fees, telephone Mrs Elizabeth Bailey on 01-584 2126.

Top: Dressmaker Amanda Barber with clients (left to right) Lottie Lorimer, PA in advertising agency, wears blue sequinned, scalloped neckline ribbon lace and satin knee-length dress, £350 plus fabric; Irene Hauger, a photographer, in frog-fastened embroidered white cotton cloqué jacket, £200 plus fabric; Courtess Alexander of Tunis in pink taffeta and cloqué mid-calf length evening dress, with dropped waist and double bow £350 plus fabric

Left: Couturier John Cahill with Anne Peto, partner in interior decorators George Spencer, wearing knee-length pink silk satin halter dress, approximately £800 including satin

Far left, above: Paul Golding with Leonie von Groot, manufacturer of jewel cases, in acid green taffeta knee-length cocktail coat over vinyl sheath dress, approximately £800 including fabric

Far left, below: Dressmaker Judy Umfreville with Shirley Valentine and her daughter Helen, librarian at the Royal Academy, both wearing mid-calf length dresses in printed Thai silk, £110 plus fabric

Make-up by Jennifer Nolan at Sessions Hair by Alan Whyte of Neville Daniel, 175 Sloane Street, SW1 Photographs by TONY MCGEE



PEOPLE

Hall of fame

Jerry Hall's merest wish to be a fashion designer, casually dropped in conversation with me and mentioned on this page last September, became swimwear manufacturer John Potter's command. He read *The Times* on holiday and sprang into action to sign up the Texan model. Jerry Hall by Tralio, the resulting swimwear line, will be introduced at the Sun and Swimwear Show in London later this month and arrives in the stores in October.

In her new role of designer, Hall accompanied Potter to Monte Carlo to choose the fabrics. Armed with her "sketches and scribbles", she spent days in Poole in Dorset, working with the Tralio design

team. "She doesn't know the length of a seam or how to lay out a pattern," Potter admits, "but she has a marvellous eye." Jerry Hall's swimwear will sell from £30 to £70. Stockists are expected to be Fenwick, Harvey Nichols, Harrods and House of Fraser stores.

Smart sample

Suzi Diamond, who has added an off-the-peg line to the successful custom-made couture service that is her speciality, is holding a sale this week of couture samples. She has teamed up with Lisa Sharpe (of Glanville-Sharpe handmade silk shoes), Florence Hardinge (knitwear and accessories from FH Consultancy) and Accessible hats for a week-long Designer Summer Sale at 2 Fulham Park Studios, Fulham Park Road, SW6 (01-736 4959).

THE BEAUCHAMP PLACE SHOP

Summer Sale

Up to 50% reductions

55 Beauchamp Place, London SW3 Telephone: 01-589 4155

Rodier, synonymous with jersey and Parisian style, is opening a London store

A taste of French dressing

Coco Chanel is always credited, correctly, with making jersey fashionable. Until she eased women out of their whalebones and into the relaxed sailor sweaters, long skirts and wide-legged trousers of her timeless Deauville style, jersey was merely the stuff used for men's underwear and hosiery. The man who made the jersey that Chanel stamped with her chic was Jacques Rodier, a name that has been synonymous with knitted fabric since the 1920s.

Rodier has continued to move with the times, switching the emphasis of his business in the 1950s from being mere suppliers of bolts of jersey cloth to the couturiers (Madame Grès, Christian Dior as well as Chanel) to creating their own knitwear collections. A franchised chain of Rodier shops opened in 1960 and there are now 500 of them across the world. Rodier ready-to-wear was launched in 1970, expanding the range from basic sweaters, cardigans and matching skirts (twin and tri-sets) to a complete wardrobe in knitted and spun fabrics, covering jersey of various weights from silky-fine for dresses and blouses to the double-weight and mohair quality essential for the timeless travel coat, as well as spun worsteds and flannels. In 1980 Rodier branched into menswear.

As the century moves into the 1990s, hi-tech jersey with its capacity to stretch, cling, drape, pack flat and then spring back into pristine shape, is clearly the star performer in every fashionable

wardrobe. The "knit", blunt fashion jargon for anything made from a knitted, not woven, fabric, be it coat or sun dress, polo shirt or pencil skirt, is fundamental to today's way of life.

The strength of Rodier's £190 million turnover (at retail) today is based on that successful marriage of Parisian style to almost a century's tradition in engineer

ing and developing knitted and spun textiles. Rodier's presence in this country, with 100 stockists (and one franchised Rodier shop in Nottingham), is about to be stamped more firmly on our fashion consciousness with the opening next week of a flagship store, opposite Harrods, on Brompton Road in Knightsbridge.

The new season's collection, designed by a team that includes Odile Lançon and Krystina Bukowska, will be there. Priced from about £50 (for a top), it comprises the show-collared, unlined travel coats, structured jackets and skirts that make up a Rodier wardrobe, with a wide range of plain, striped and marled knitted separates. In smooth jersey a sharp-lapelled double-breasted suit with short pencil skirt acquires a flattering gentleness. An evening sweater has a gossamer lace back. Teams of French actresses, working with Rodier designers, have recently added another dimension to the fashionable image by each creating their own capsule wardrobe. The results have included a line of plain and spotted taffeta dresses and evening jersey separates signed by Valerie Kaprisky; leggings, zippered tunics, long skinny pleated skirts in vanilla jersey from Marie-France Pissier; and dramatic low-backed sweater dresses along with more tailored suits in sober jacquards from Gabrielle Lazure.

The Rodier shop opens on July 20 at 106-108 Brompton Road, London SW1.

Yellow and black stripe Rodier style

JASPER CONRAN SHOP

Summer Sale

Up to 50% reductions

37 Beauchamp Place, London SW3 Telephone: 01-589 4243



1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

ARMS AND THE ARABS

The latest British arms deal with Saudi Arabia is a tribute to patient diplomacy and brisk salesmanship. It has enabled this country to replace the United States as the principal supplier of weapons to Riyadh...

of their own. So, for that matter, has Israel. There is always a political risk involved. Ten years ago Britain, like the United States, was happy to supply weapons to the Shah...

CALCULATED IMPULSE

Prince Sihanouk's resignation yesterday as head of the Cambodian resistance alliance threw those conducting the Indo-China peace process into some disarray. They may console themselves, however, that the Prince is notorious for seemingly impulsive actions...

name-backed regime. They say that this would be a recipe for the Khmer Rouge to win power again by stealth, through their savage flair for organization, or failing that, to hurl Cambodia into chaos.

LEAGUE AND SUPERLEAGUE

It seems entirely possible that one hundred years after its foundation the English Football League will disintegrate. Accusations of deceit, bad faith, greed and incompetence are daily traded across boardroom floors and newspaper back pages.

super league of clubs on the lines of the Scottish Premier Division. The regularity with which members of such a league play each other can lead to monotonous unadventurous play.

False equation on the oil rigs

From Mr P. R. Leckie Sir, Your editorial on the Cleveland report ("Judging abuse" July 7) refers to "the parents who suffered so much" and goes on to discuss the various professionals in the affair...

Putting children's needs first

From Mr Peter Newell Sir, Your editorial on the Cleveland report ("Judging abuse" July 7) refers to "the parents who suffered so much" and goes on to discuss the various professionals in the affair...

Loan finance for first-time buyers

From Mr D. G. Tipping Sir, The current rise in mortgage rates highlights the difficulties for first-time buyers, and for those existing mortgage payers already on the edge of default.

Reform of NHS

From Ms Sally Gooch Sir, In his closing remarks in yesterday's Opposition debate on the National Health Service, Mr Newton, Minister for Health, contrasted nurses' critical reception for David Ennals on the eve of the thirtieth anniversary of the NHS...

Zinoviev trial

From Miss Marjorie Nicholson Sir, You commented (leading article, July 21) that there has been no present-day lobby working for the rehabilitation of Zinoviev, though as an old Bolshevik his rehabilitation was necessary...

Church and State

From Mr Edward Young Sir, After church this morning I picked up a summary of the Church Commissioners' annual report.

Wartime massacre

From Mr Roderick Thomson Sir, One general seeks to shield another from arraignment (July 4). But what fundamental objections can there be to bringing to trial anyone - Briton or German, and however old - who is believed to have been directly involved in an atrocity...

Geometric change

From Mr Colin Dixon Sir, Mr John Dixon (July 4) is surprised to find 29 different spellings of the word "isosceles" in the scripts of 100 recent GCSE mathematics candidates.

Indemnity insurance

From Professor Donald Bishop Sir, Mr D. G. M. Roberts referred (June 29) to the many problems faced by plaintiffs seeking redress for death or injury when faced with multi-party proceedings...

Misdirected

From Mr Robin Sporn-Smith Sir, It was hardly a surprise to read in today's Times (July 5) that the General Medical Council had decided not to disbar a doctor who had improperly prescribed controlled drugs.

Brother's charges

From Mr R. A. GALE Sir, On the day (July 5) you published a letter from Sir William van Straubenzee complaining of stockbrokers' "small" charges I had an example from NatWest Stockbrokers Limited.

Balance of payments

From Mrs Rosamond Peirson Sir, Constance Pool's letter (July 6) reminds me of the occasion when I was driving an elderly friend through the town, and noticed that some street lights were on, even though it was midday.

Kensington landlord

From Mr Robert Orr-Ewing Sir, Saturday's report on the Kensington by-election (July 9) refers to two female victims who were harassed by their landlord, Mr Nicholas Hoogstraten.

Broker's charges

From Mr R. A. GALE Sir, On the day (July 5) you published a letter from Sir William van Straubenzee complaining of stockbrokers' "small" charges I had an example from NatWest Stockbrokers Limited.

Balance of payments

From Mrs Rosamond Peirson Sir, Constance Pool's letter (July 6) reminds me of the occasion when I was driving an elderly friend through the town, and noticed that some street lights were on, even though it was midday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

BIRTHS

ALBERTS - On June 26th in Washington DC to Laura (nee...) and George, a daughter, Caroline Alexandra.

DEATHS

ALLAN - On July 9th 1988, after a long illness, D.S.O. D.F.C. A.F.C. A.E. F.B.M. R.A.F. (retired).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAY - On July 10th 1988, in his 81st year, after a long illness, Mr. John...

DEATHS

ALLAN - On July 9th 1988, after a long illness, D.S.O. D.F.C. A.F.C. A.E. F.B.M. R.A.F. (retired).

FOR SALE

MORNING SUITS - DINNER SUITS - EVENING SUITS - Surplus to Hire - For Sale - BARGAINS FROM 240 - LIPMAN'S HIRE DEPT - 22 CHARING CROSS RD - London WC2E 9JQ - Tel: 01-240 2310

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RENTALS - ALLAN BATES & Co. have a stock of holiday flats and houses to rent...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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THE TIMES TO PLACE A BIRTH, MARRIAGE OR DEATH NOTICE IN THE TIMES NEWSPAPER - Please telephone by 5.00 p.m. for the announcement to be published in the following days issue. 01 481 4000

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OAKHAM SCHOOL

FOCUS

The co-ed lesson

Once it was just a small, one-room school for boys in Britain's smallest county. Now, Oakham has grown in size and rank to public school status with 936 pupils, half of them girls

Oakham School in Leicestershire, one of Britain's most progressive co-educational independent schools, has come a long way since its foundation in 1584 when the Archdeacon of Leicester, Robert Johnson, set up a one-room academy for 25 boys in Oakham, the principal settlement of the county of Rutland, England's smallest county before the 1974 boundary changes.

Johnson's descendants still number among the school's 20 trustees, and the school survives on a greatly expanded site. The original building has been preserved and restored as one of the school's two theatres.

Down the centuries the number of pupils has fluctuated but Oakham has remained relatively small. The pupil numbers were at a particularly low ebb towards the end of the 19th century but boomed between the two World Wars, as they did at most schools away from London.

In 1946, after the Second World War, with an established identity as the grammar school for Rutland, Oakham accepted Direct Grant aid from the Ministry of Education. In return, the school took in a percentage of county scholarships offered to primary school boys who passed an examination for a grammar school education.

In 1970, Direct Grant ended with the political upheavals which brought in Comprehensive School education, the trustees deemed not suitable for Oakham, and the school returned to independent status.

A massive expansion programme then involved the building of nine new houses for day pupils and boarders, a new junior school, two upper sixth form houses, a sports complex, swimming pool and a design centre.

The expansion also paved the way for girls, 30 of whom made their first appearance in the sixth form. Their numbers increased until 1975 when the school became more or less co-educational.

Now, with 936 pupils in the junior and senior schools, there are only 40 more boys than girls. In 1984, the 400th Centenary Appeal raised enough money for a new biology building, music school and computer centre.

The Barnborough Hall was converted into the Queen Elizabeth theatre, and was opened by the Queen in November, 1984. The

building programme was later extended to a new dining hall with seating for half the school, which opened last September.

To the visitor, the first impressions of the school are confusing, for there are no high fences or gates. The spread of the school is largely a result of its success.

The early 1970s expansion included the building of new houses and facilities, which now makes the school seem like a sprawling village within the town. Oakham maintains traditional standards found in most public schools, but insists these are achieved by methods more usually found within a family than a regiment.

There are 213 pupils aged between 10 and 12 in the junior school, 444 in the middle school aged between 13 and 16, and 279 in the sixth and seventh forms. There are 497 boys, 439 girls, 539 boarders and 397 day pupils.

They are all allocated a house, of which there are 13, with a house-master or mistress and a tutor responsible for their pastoral care. With 100 teaching staff the ratio is roughly one to 10, and each pupil is personally known well to at least two adults.

Morning lessons take place six days a week, with three afternoon classes. The other afternoons are taken up with three games sessions, activities and societies.

Academically, the school follows an open timetable, allowing pupils to study subjects of their choice where possible. Up to GCSE core subjects - maths, English, French, a science and a creative art must be taken.

Encouragingly, newcomers are given two weeks when they will not be punished for lateness due to getting lost in the school.

There is no corporal punishment. Instead, a system of detentions exists for omission of work, with warnings, gatings and suspensions administered in order of severity for other misdemeanours, such as smoking and drinking. Limited drinking is allowed

within the schools sixth form bar, for those over 18, and trips to local public houses are permitted to that age group. All pupils seem to have personal bank accounts, rather than bank their money with the housemasters.

The pupils, disconcertingly referred to by most staff as "children", which seems odd when many of them are more than 6ft tall, were unfailingly courteous and showed no hint of the arrogance often associated with public schools.

They are encouraged to care for each other, helping juniors with problems and assuming responsibility for those in lower forms, whether they are prefects or not.

Judging by the groups of nervous parents lurking in the corridor outside the headmaster's study, it might seem that Graham Smallbone is the typical school tyrant set in the Victorian mould. One forgets that parents automatically behave like erring pupils when faced with any headmaster.

The reality of a tall, distinguished man with the manner of a kindly doctor and appearance of a City gent comes as a surprise. A lifetime teaching in boys' schools makes Mr Smallbone refer to all pupils as children, or boys, even when they are girls, but the former director and preceptor of music at Eton, now aged 54, refuses to fit the single-sex public schoolmaster mould.

He travels from Headmaster's House by bicycle, a huge black machine, previously owned by a police constable.

A keen cellist, a director of music for 24 years and bound up in school-mastering, all led Mr Smallbone and his wife, Dorothea, to Oakham School.

"I'm fortunate because it is an unusual school," he says. "Over the past 20 years it has changed dramatically, co-education being the biggest change. We have an unusual mixture of boys and girls, day and boarding. The school has

become, in that time, a school to be reckoned with.

"Since it has been co-educational it has been the full equal of the traditional opposition, Oundle and Uppingham. We are always pleased to defeat them at games, and we often do. That never happened before co-education.

Oakham's games were not the only area to improve with the advent of girls, the academic standard rose too, for both sexes.

This, he says, was due to the school's context being a very exciting one, with co-education the mainspring.

"Academically the results are high; I tell parents they can take the standard as read. It won't matter which of the great schools you go to, what makes the difference is what we do out of school hours, and that is where co-education has the most tremendous impact, with the music, drama and outdoor activities.

"What we offer is a total education, whether boarding or day, if pupils take part in all the evening activities."

More and more, the problem of integrating boarders and day pupils is being overcome, by mixing them in the houses. But, it is unreasonable for pupils to expect to know everyone in a school the size of Oakham, he believes.

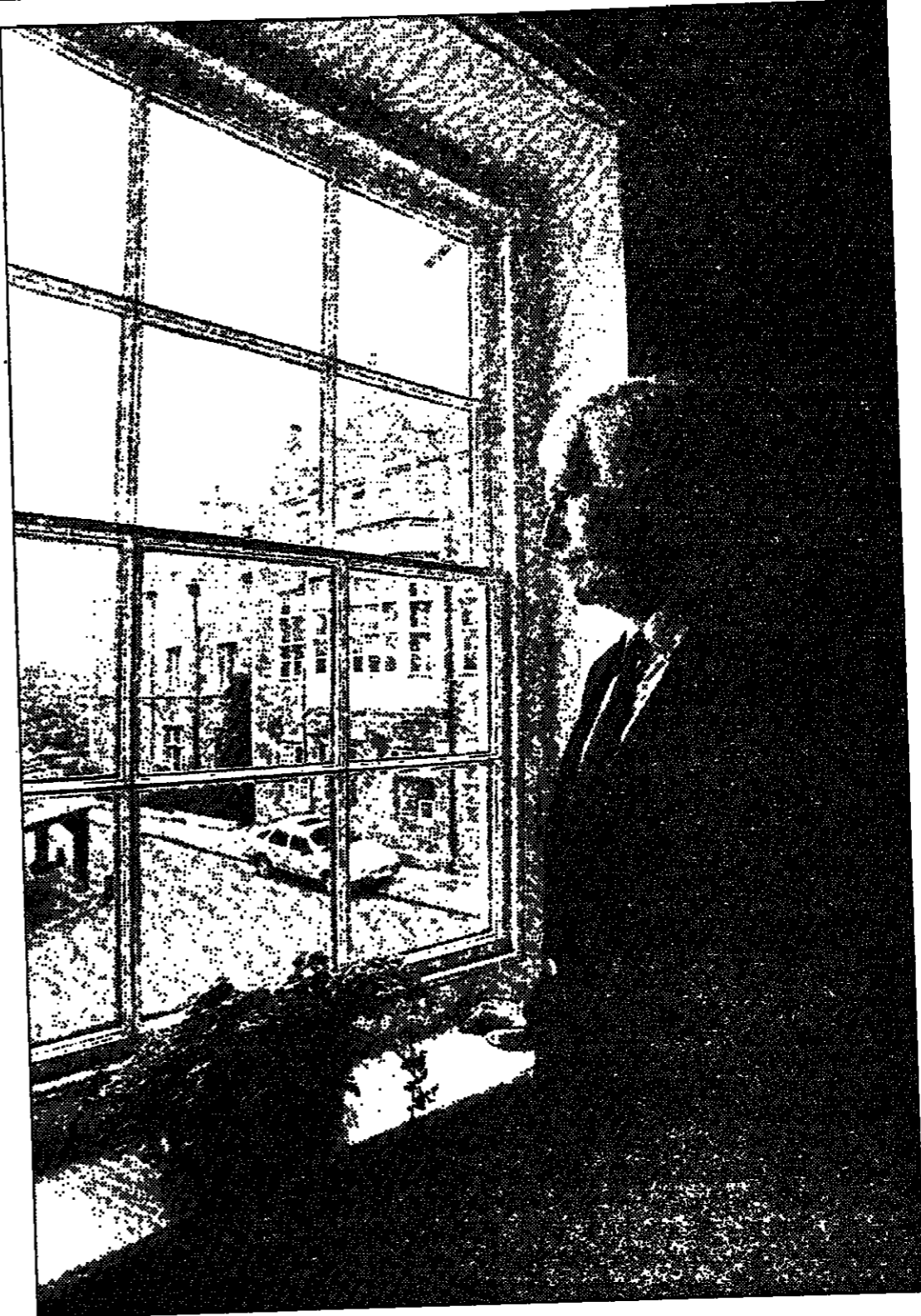
The philosophy of right and wrong is a traditional Christian one, and pupils usually attend chapel twice a week.

Standards of behaviour are straightforward. "I expect that the pupils will behave to each other as their parents would reasonably expect them to behave at home. I don't think, for personal relationships, they need clearer guidelines than that."

Moral education, as such, is covered by religious studies, where moral issues on matters such as sex and society can be discussed openly. There are no special lectures, but all these subjects are dealt with openly.

"Punishment as such is unimportant, we don't spend a lot of time thinking about that.

"On such matters as smoking and drinking there are straightforward sanctions. But the important issues like how to live with each other have to be firmly understood. There aren't a lot of rules unless you act in a matter contrary to common sense. Most people understand that very well."



"Moral education is covered by religious studies, where issues on matters such as sex and society can be discussed quite openly. Punishment as such is unimportant; we don't spend a lot of time thinking about that."

Graham Smallbone, above, headmaster

What kind of an example are you setting at school?

You can usually tell what kind of school you run simply by looking at the paperwork that circulates in and around it.

If it resembles the sheets featured on this page, you're obviously setting a shining example. If not, we'll tell you how you could.

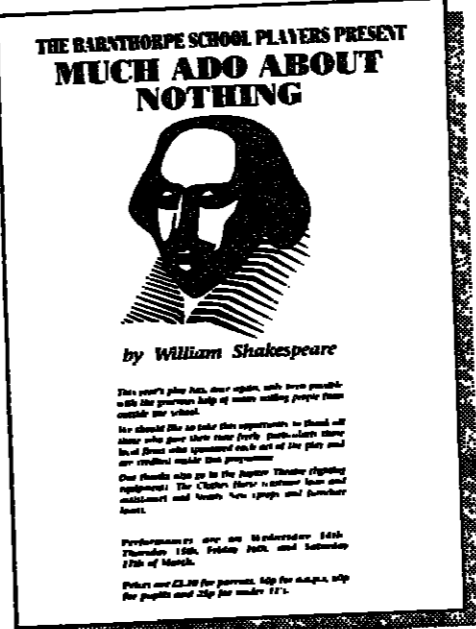
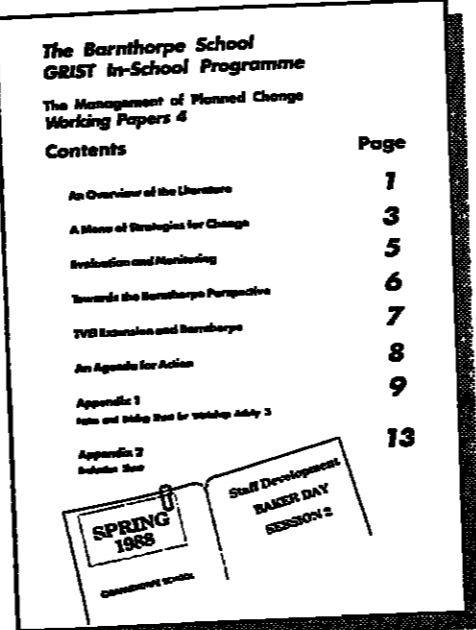
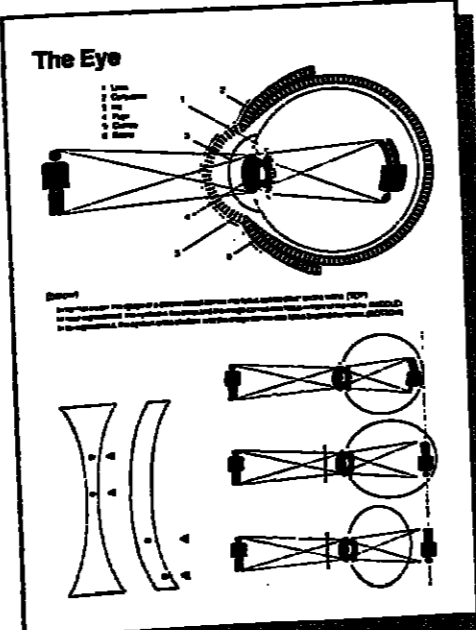
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Grooming for that university place starts in the fourth year



Oakham style: in their last year, seventh formers can wear casual clothes; for the others uniforms are a must. The students are treated, and expected to behave, as adults

About 94 per cent of Oakham's students go on to university or some other form of higher education. Around 20 candidates a year, of an average 35, are accepted for Oxford or Cambridge.

The high staff expectation of academic performance is reflected in the pupil's own aspirations. All the seventh formers questioned, had their sights set on university.

Their last year at Oakham leads along a course somewhere between undergraduate life and traditional school routine. They can wear their own choice of clothes, except on formal occasions, and are generally treated, and expected to behave, as adults.

Though not free from all supervision, nowhere is the headmaster's standard of common sense expected to prevail more than among those about to fly the coop.

Dr Mel Twigg, the careers master, says: "We start on careers in a big way in the fifth year, though I will have talked to many of the pupils unofficially in the fourth year.

"We go right through the fifth form with sets of formal interviews. Since most of them will go to university the careers approach is geared towards that end. We offer advice and help, and together with the careers library act as an information service."

Dr Twigg says he assesses the pupils academically, and in other ways, to see if their ambitions are realistic.

He has more specialist information available than the tutors, though they handle a lot of this work. Usually, he says pupils are very realistic, though the same could not always be said of their parents.

As a member of the Independent Schools Career Service (Iscs), Oakham sees to it that each fifth former takes a range of aptitude tests and career questionnaires. A report of these is sent to parents, and the aim is to determine what subjects the pupil should concentrate on after GCSE.

An average pupil at Oakham is expected to get eight or more O-levels and the advent of the GCSE is not expected to change this.

Careers information day visits to local firms and factories are organized in conjunction with the business studies A-level course and the Science Association.

Guest speakers often visit the school to lecture on a particular profession.

In the sixth form, an industrial and higher education conference is held, in which Rutland Sixth Form College joins forces with Oakham for their mutual benefit.

Business studies is a popular A-level subject and serves as an introduction to accountancy, banking, marketing and other commercial careers.

The A-level course covers eight modules: marketing, production, industrial relations, statistics and operational research, cost and financial accounting, macroeconomics, individual and group psychology, and formal organization theory.

The examination also requires a project, which is of great interest to the business sector as it ensures the candidate spends at least two weeks in a work environment.



Set for the future: school expansion brought modern, airy buildings - and computer classes

Switched on to success

By the age of 13 or 14, Oakham pupils are as familiar with the workings and uses of computers as they are with Wordsworth's Daffodils. The purpose-built computer centre, opened in 1984, is equipped mostly on the basis of one student one computer.

The range includes, for the start of the next academic year, seven Apple IIs, 12 Apple Macintoshes, 10 Ataris, 12 BBCs and 12 Nimbuses.

Pupils receive a thorough grounding in computers during the first three years, beginning at the age of 10, when computer work is compulsory.

During the first few years students master the basic use of the systems, until the fourth and fifth year when about 30 opt to continue formal computer studies as part of a creative arts course. In the sixth form, computer studies is part of the general studies course for A-level.

By the time they reach the sixth, they know what they are doing and they use the general studies time for design or for special projects.

Peter Gray, the computers master, says: "Their general studies work ties in with other subjects such as biology and business studies projects, when they can use an Apple Macintosh computer for graphs and graphics.

"The philosophy behind the teaching of computers is that pupils learn their uses and applications. If someone wants to learn programming we'll do it, but not as a general rule. For most, programming is not necessary. They just want a program that will do the thing they want it to do.

"Teaching the students to use several different types of machine means they are then confident when faced with tackling keyboard challenges in the future; for instance, if they came across a page-planner in a newspaper, they would have used one before and not be frightened by it.

"For those who are going to learn programming there is a little bit of the Pascal computer language in the fifth form, and the maths staff teach them some programming in the Logo computer language so they can get to grips with some of their mathematical problems; for example, if you make the machine do this, what are you actually doing in number terms? They use that as a tool."

The children take to the computers as second nature, especially if they have started very young. Surprisingly, even with co-education, masters said they found boys and girls sat in groups of their own sex

in all classes except computers.

Three BBC terminals are set up in the boarding houses, enabling students to use them at night for prep or revision, using special programs. Biology, maths and physics are among the wide range of programs available.

Macintosh computers are stationed around the school for staff use, with two laser-writer printers. They are handy for reports and other administrative tasks, including speech day literature.

Oakham has its own certificate in computer applications, which the head of department, Mrs Rita Gunn, says was based on the Milton Keynes certificate of the early 1980s.

This is what students work towards during their computer work, and it follows six modules: general computer training and systems skills, discs, files, word-processing, spreadsheets, databases and information systems.

They move on to local viewdata and remote viewdata, then electronics and some control work, using the computer to control.

The certificate, though not exactly a recognized qualification, is viewed favourably, and is, Mrs Gunn says, similar to the Cambridge Certificate in Information Technology.

How the school raises finance

Most of the money needed to finance an independent school the size of Oakham with nearly 950 pupils comes from its fees and limited endowments. The boarders will pay £7,000 a year, and day pupils £3,300 for the coming academic year.

The 20 trustees, drawn from all walks of life, are responsible for managing, planning, and taking financial decisions on the school's behalf. The main body meets four times a year, and the committees on finance and building hold meetings once a term.

The trustees cover a wide spread of abilities:

academics, accountants, lawyers, an MP, and they keep in close touch with the school.

The School Visitor, a courtesy title, is John Jerwood, an old Oakhamian and considerable benefactor after whom the junior house is named. He is the figurehead of the trustees with a passion for education. His foundation also puts up much of the money to support the Oakham scholarships.

The trustees responsibilities cover the financial management of the school, appointing the headmaster and ultimately controlling the direction of the school.

Scholarship still pays off

Oakham School boasts a range of scholarships, which will be increased in value this year by £100,000 to £350,000 a year.

Last February, 126 children sat the scholarship exam, competing for awards focusing on outstanding academic, musical or artistic ability.

The money for scholarships and bursaries comes from school income, endowments and trust funds, such as the Elizabethan Trust, which are controlled by the trustees.

Recently, the School Visitor, John Jerwood, an old Oakhamian, has made large donations through the Jerwood Foundation to increase the number and value of awards.

As well as scholarships, bursaries are available for boys and girls deemed "by reason of personality or talent" to be likely to make an outstanding contribution to school life.

At present, about 100 pupils are benefiting from awards and the trustees are working towards increasing the number still further.

Michael Stevens, the registrar, says: "Some scholarships cover boarding fees and tuition; others partially. There are a number of bursaries, and the headmaster ensures that some go to children we would like to have in the school but who, for one reason or another, don't quite meet academic requirements."

Scholarships are awarded at the ages of 11-plus, 13-plus and for entry into the sixth form, based on examination and interview performance.

Music scholarships are offered to young, committed and able singers and instrumentalists. According to the school staff, excellent musical potential and flair

count as much as achievement at the younger ages of entry.

Art and Design awards are given to students set on a career in either art, design or technology, and generally made only to those entering the sixth form with a firm idea of their career ambitions.

Minor art exhibitions may be made to pupils entering the school aged 13.

Admirable as the scholarship programme may be, those enjoying Rutland Scholarships for entry at 11-plus must be indelibly labelled for their school lives, thanks to the blunt and condescending descriptions in the prospectus.

It says the award is: "Intended for children whose families have been resident in the county for at least two years, and who might otherwise be unable to afford an Oakham education."

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More of a home than a house

Home from home for the boarders are the houses, where they sleep, study and learn to rub along with their fellow Oakhamians. The same idea applies for the day pupils, though they return to their parents at night.

The junior school is Jerwoods, for ages 11 to 13, which has four houses, two for day girls, two for day boys. The middle school has five boarding and two day houses, while the senior school for 17 to 19 year-olds has two houses, one for boys and girls, which both admit boarders and day pupils.

Rod Smith is housemaster of Chapmans, with 74 boys in his charge. He aims to have contact with each boy four times a day, however informal.

He is backed up by a resident tutor, a matron and four other tutors, each responsible for about eight boys. Any pupil can take his problems to either his tutor or housemaster, confident that they will go no further, though exceptions obviously arise.

"It's like a great big family," said Mr Smith. "It's all a question of getting to know people and mutual trust. With a group of sixth formers at the top of the house, they are really very mature young men and they give themselves heart and soul to the place and to helping the younger ones. The tutor system helps enormously. The tutor is very much a *confidante*. Parents work very closely with us as well, and I send a little report home on each child every three weeks; the progress they are making and the effort they are putting in. The immediacy of contact is very important otherwise kids lose sight of their parents."

Oakham explains its decision to live off the seniors into their own houses, rather than keep them with the middle school, as beneficial to their increased freedom and further encourages them to take responsibility.

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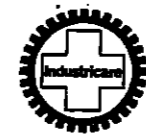
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FOCUS

Game of life starts on playing field

In the best of English traditions, sport occupies an important position in the curriculum and in school life

Oakham places emphasis on sport for all levels and ages, regardless of skill. Each term concentrates on a particular sport for girls and boys...

At weekends, and during the afternoons other than when pupils are supposed to be doing games, they can occupy their time with societies and other activities.

Arts, crafts, music and other hobbies may be taken in a pupil's spare time, as well as science, exploration, dress-making and chess.

The list of sporting options includes rugby, soccer, athletics, hockey, cricket, badminton, basketball, netball, fives, fencing, golf, riding, sailing, shooting, squash and watersports.

Boys and girls are urged to play the sport they are good at. Oakham regularly plays other schools, such as nearby Uppingham and Oundle...

Since going co-educational, the standard of boys sports has risen dramatically at Oakham, for some unaccountable reason.

Oakham this year has fielded five boys for the Leicestershire schoolboys rugby XV, two for the England team...

In the last 10 years, Oakham pupils have represented England in hockey, rugby and shooting...

Sixth form societies range from debating to the International Club and the Oakham Association for science enthusiasts.

Boys and girls from form four and above can take part in the Combined Cadet Force one afternoon a week...

Many gold medals for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme have been won by Oakham students over the years...

An active social service group helps with handicapped and elderly people in the locality, assists at the Oakham Nursery School...



Please Sir: enthusiasm reigns during a questions session at one of Roger Blackmore's junior science classes

Artistic talent goes on show

Housewives will be pleased to hear that home economics comes under art and design studies at Oakham. Within the design centre, it is just one of a host of subjects which all pupils study in their first two years...

with local firms who are always willing to help. Pointing to an A-level photographic display of brightly coloured children's clothes in bold shades and practical designs for six to eight-year-olds, Mr Minshall added: "The girl who made these has brothers and sisters of that age so she used them as models."

A GCSE or follow two one-year courses. There is no rigidity, and students can indulge their own particular creative leanings, which may or not lead them to A-level in the subject.

Armed with their experiences they can then choose to take a creative arts GCSE, as most of them do. Creative arts is a compulsory subject until the fifth form, whether pupils take an examination or not.

To help this pupil we phoned various companies for invitations for her to go to fashion and trade shows. She went all over the place with various companies and then produced her own range of clothes, with all the information available to

One feature of the art and design at Oakham is a resident artist, the current one being a jeweller. In the past there have been painters, sculptors and other jewellers.

Regular exhibitions are mounted and pupils spend their free time and weekends working on projects in the design centre. This year's major exhibition shows a staggering range of young talent of all ages.

The emphasis is on initial research

Moving to the junior and middle school section of the exhibition, the standard of work is just as impressive.

Martin Minshall, the director of art and design, is proud of his pupils' efforts. "This girl has an interest in puppetry," he said, pointing to a group of exquisitely made and dressed puppets suspended on strings.

The professionals. All the fabrics are hand-dyed and printed, and she made the buttons herself. Pupils keep a project diary so it is reported on at every stage.

The same principles of research, design and manufacture apply, with the help of local industry, and then evaluation of the end product.

Explaining the process students follow in creating a project, as major works are called, he added: "She went down to Wiltshire to see what puppet makers did and saw the different ways they were manufactured."

For the first three years in creative arts pupils follow the full range of subjects, including theatre, music, computer control and technology, home economics as well as the full range of art and design activities.

One 15-year-old girl designed a leverage unit for people with arthritis whose illness made opening doors difficult. "It was a simple problem, sorted out with help from the local hospital," says Mr Minshall.

"She then designed hers, working with local people - we have excellent contacts

In the fourth year they can decide to do

Another ingenious creation involved building bricks which fitted into a wooden frame. If slotted in the right order, back-to-back in the frame, the bricks on one side spelled a French word such as *vache*, with the bricks on the other side forming the picture of a cow. Five or more descriptive words could be fitted into the frame.

"It's all about ideas and different processes," mused Mr Minshall. "Just a simple way for a child to learn a few French words."

Halls alive to sound of music

With a headmaster who is an ardent musician it is hardly surprising that Oakham has a reputation for music studies.

The school's senior drama company, the Jerwood Players, puts on two plays a year and has performed at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

With two theatres averaging 45 productions a year, no pupil could complain of a shortage dramatic and musical opportunity.

The two theatres at Oakham are the Shakespeare Centre, which was the original classroom when the school was founded in 1584, and the Queen Elizabeth Theatre, formerly the Barraclough Hall, which was opened by the Queen during her visit to the school in 1984.

Almost any musical instrument can be learnt, with the added incentive of free lessons for the first term on a new instrument. Those who have attained Grade 5 Merit or above get free tuition.

Enthusiasm for music throughout the school is high and every member of Jerwood's, the junior school, will proudly tell of his or her own musical prowess.

Music is taught in class for the first two years and is available as an option later. Many pupils choose to take a music subject at GCSE and A-level, as well as aiming for entry to a music college or university entry.

Singers can join the chapel choir which gives added voice to services as well as concerts. For Jerwoods there is a junior choir and choral society.

With two school orchestras, two chamber orchestras, bass ensembles, string quartets and swing bands, there are endless chances to perform in public.

Among those who watched the re-run, were the former MacBeth lead actor, now Dr Peter North, principal of Jesus College, Oxford; Major General A. J. G. Pollard, deputy colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment who played Ross; and John Cope, the Employment Minister, who played... Lady Macbeth.

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Student body's minor moans

Talking to Oakham's pupils shows that the staff claims of happiness and harmony throughout the entire school are well founded.

Higher up the school, the concerns were focused on personal matters. One sixth former thought the headmaster's theory that common-sense prevails in personal relationships between boys and girls all very well.

No students, with or without masters present, had a major complaint about their school. Most genuinely enjoyed it and appreciated the facilities and opportunities.

Cheerily, all pupils questioned, emphatically said that if another was known to be drinking alcohol, or taking drugs, they would tell their housemaster or tutor. They did not regard it as "sneaking" but in the boy or girl's best interests that the staff be told.

Apart from minor moans from very junior members that red polo neck jumpers might be imposed next winter if they persisted in wearing tee-shirts under their predominantly navy blue uniforms, the only major concern was the difference between day pupils and boarders.

Although integrated houses are on the increase, day pupils felt a huge gap between themselves and the boarders.

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"We have lunch at a different time to them and we don't really have anywhere to go in our spare time. We're not supposed to go into the boarding houses," said one Jerwoods member.

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ISCO Independent Schools Careers Organisation. Head Office: 126-128 Princes Way, Canterbury, Surrey GU15 3SE. Telephone: 0776 21188/9. All 5th form boys and girls at Oakham are enrolled in the ISCO CAREERS GUIDANCE SCHEME. Independent schools may obtain details of the Scheme from the Director whom parents should contact for information regarding ISCO publications.

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TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Jane Rackham

BBC1

- 6.00 Ceefax AM. 6.40 Edgar Kennedy in Morning Judge (b/w). 7.00 Breakfast Time with Jeremy Paxman and Kirsty Wark.

BBC2

- 6.55 Open University: Geology - Deserts 7.20 Power to the People. Ends at 7.45. 9.00 Ceefax.

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am begins with The Morning Programme introduced by Richard Keys; 7.00 Good Morning London.

CHANNEL 4

- 12.00 Just 4 Fun (r). 12.30 Business Daily. 1.00 Sesame Street. The guest is conductor Yo-Yo Ma.

Monarchs and myths

TELEVISION CHOICE

The premise behind Late Great Britons (BBC1, 11.05pm) is that the historical characters under reassessment by modern historians can, without hesitation, be called great. With tonight's subject, Queen Victoria, doubts are immediately raised.



Symbol of stability: An informal 1885 photograph of Queen Victoria with two of her many grandchildren (BBC1, 11.05pm)

The reign went on, the monarchy became steadily more popular and her death, in Cannadine's phrase, set off "an orgy of mourning". In defiance of television convention, which says that you cannot risk boring people with talk, Cannadine speaks straight to camera, with the minimum of visual aids.

Peter Waymark

Blandings to the life

RADIO CHOICE

The more I hear of Richard Usborne's radio versions of the Blandings saga - the latest, Heavy Weather begins on Radio 4, 6.30pm - the less didactic I get about insisting that Wodehouse ought to be left where it began, on the printed page.



The Best Threepwood: Ian Carmichael (R4, 6.30pm)

potato peelings so that he can prevent something unspeakable happening to the Earl's prize porker, Empress of Blandings, the useless Ronnie Fish suffering bouts of "Eton and Cambridge silence" when anyone casts a shadow over his love affair with the chorus-

Peter Davalle

- BBC1 WALE: 6.30-6.50 News Today 6.50-7.00 News Today 7.00-7.15 News Today 7.15-7.30 News Today

- TVS As London except 1.20pm News from 1.20pm to 1.30pm. 2.00pm News from 2.00pm to 2.10pm.

Radio 1, Radio 2, Radio 3, Radio 4. 6.55 Weather. News Headlines 7.00 Morning Concert: Stravinsky (Four Norwegian Moods).

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Radio 4. 4.00 News. 5.55 Shipping Forecast. 6.00 News Briefing: Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Dying 6.30 Today, Inci 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary 6.45 Business News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.00, 8.00 News 7.20 Your Letters 7.25, 8.25 Day 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament 8.57 Weather: Travel 9.00 News 9.05 Call Nick Ross: Discussion about the lessons that can be learned from the Cleveland child abuse case.

STOCK MARKETS

NEW YORK

Brewers under shadow of US claims

The spectre of product liability has already taken its toll of the US and British tobacco companies and now threatens to wreak the same havoc on the drinks industry.

Two claims against alcohol companies have already been lodged in US courts and others are expected to follow.

A case in Pennsylvania courts brought by a woman alleging that her husband's beer consumption caused pancreatitis and led to his death at the age of 26 was thrown out. But an appeal court has now decided there is a case to answer.

Some women in Seattle are also alleging that alcohol consumption, while they were pregnant, has resulted in their children being born deformed. They have named several drinks companies, including Anheuser Busch, the world's biggest brewer.

Mr Noel Sloan, analyst at Kleinwort Greaveson, is worried about the pending law suits and is urging clients to reduce their holding in Anheuser Busch. He points out that tobacco stocks have reflected the concern by trading at a large discount. But brewers like Anheuser are trading at a small premium.

A shadow could also hang over our own brewery shares. "That is the worst-case scenario. There is less of a transatlantic link in the case of

brewing than there is in the case of smoking," says Mr Sloan.

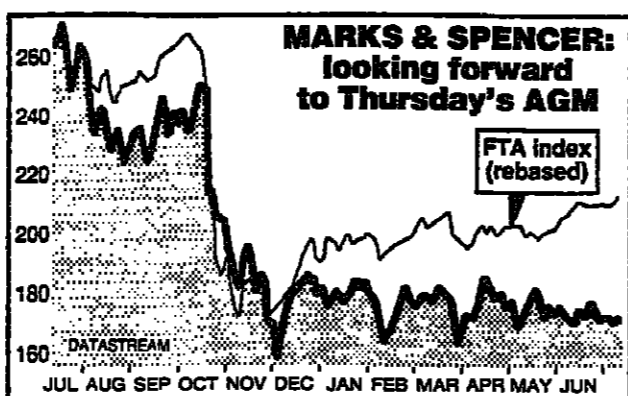
But the American brewers are clearly worried about the final outcome. "The story is not a new one but I have put forward a different view," he adds. Analysts on Wall Street have not even stopped to think about the possible consequences yet.

But the British brewers appeared unperturbed about the whole thing. Allied-Lyons rose 3p to 436p, Bass 3p to 792p, Whitbread B 15p to 435p, while Grand Metropolitan slipped 2p to 510p and Scottish & Newcastle 6p to 316p.

Ford Sellar Morris, the USM-quoted property developer and retailer, rose another 5p to 119p. Full-year figures today should make pleasant reading. They should show a £5 million turnaround from a loss of £2.2 million to at least £3 million profit for the 16 months to April 30.

Elsewhere in the market, blue chips marked time as investors showed reluctance to commit funds ahead of this week's batch of economic statistics which include the all-important US trade figures on Friday.

Interest was confined to



MARKS & SPENCER: looking forward to Thursday's AGM

second liners and takeover favourites.

The FT-SE 100 share index fluctuated within narrow limits before closing 0.4 points lower at 1,876.8. The FT 30 share index ended 3.7 points higher at 1,510.5.

Gilt-edged stocks closed well below the best with improvements of 1/4 after the higher-than-expected input and output producer prices.

BSR International, the Hong Kong-based electronics group, was an early feature jumping 14p to 97p. The board says it has received an approach about a possible merger but is not naming names.

The market thinks it could be a European suitor and is already looking for some favourable terms. At these levels, the entire group is valued at £168 million.

BSR was rescued from obscurity by Mr Bill Wylie who stepped down as chairman earlier this year but still has a seat on the board. The group now makes power supply systems for main-frame computers. But last year it paid almost £10 million for Girmi, the privately-owned Italian electrical appliance manufacturer. There was even talk that the group was considering floating its appliances division separately.

Details of the approach are not expected until next week at the earliest.

Shares of Marks & Spencer, the jewel in the high street's crown, held steady at 173p. Mr Zak Keshavjee, stores analyst at SBCI Savory Millin, the broker, reckons they should soon start to improve. He predicts a bounce of between 15p and 20p over the

short-term following Thursday's annual general meeting. He says the current price marks a relative low since mid-1980 and the shares are oversold.

He expects M&S to please its followers with some bullish news about first-quarter trading, particularly as last year's depressing first-half figures, that showed sales up about 5 per cent with clothing up by a meagre 2 per cent, provide such a poor year-on-year comparison. Like-for-like increases in double figures are possible.

The shares' rating has been undermined by concern surrounding future expansion

Guinness, where the French drinks and distribution group LVMH last week took a 10 per cent stake at 430p a share, firmed 3p to 349p. Another big buyer decided to pay over the odds picking up 2.5 million shares at 355p each. Someone was clearly impressed with the deal.

into the American food retail market. But Mr Keshavjee allays these fears by claiming that M&S is looking to make two small acquisitions totalling about £150 million and building up the business organically over an extended time-scale.

Dixons, the high street elec-

trical retailer, recently hit by the departure of Mr Egon von Greyerz, the executive deputy chairman and financial director, rose 4p to 181p on a turnover of nearly 5 million shares.

It was boosted by reports from Japan that the company has had talks with Best Denki, a Japanese electrical retailer, with a view to a joint venture aimed at combining theseing power of their own labels.

If the deal does come off, it will involve cross-shareholding between the two although the Japanese stake in Dixons would be nominal.

Dixons reports annual results for the year to April tomorrow and dealers are expecting them to be disappointing.

Analysts' forecasts of pre-tax profits range between £104 million and £109 million, including a first-time contribution from Silo, the US acquisition, against £102.6 last time.

However, the figures have generally been discounted by the market. Many brokers think that the worst is now over and Mr Stanley Kalms, the chairman, should announce tomorrow's figures along with a bullish statement about prospects.

Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

Dow edges higher in quiet trading

(Reuter) - Wall Street stocks were mainly higher in a quiet opening session.

"Trading is very, very quiet and is likely to stay that way for the rest of the week," said Mr Newton Zinder, an analyst at Shearson Lehman Hutton, the securities dealer.

The Dow Jones industrial average was six points up in early trading with stocks gaining ground holding a slight lead over those declining. Atlas Corp rose one point to 34 1/2. It plans to raise gold

production by 65 per cent from January.

Mr James Andrews, equity trade manager of Janney Montgomery Scott, the securities house, said: "There's some upward pressure on interest rates due to the higher-than-expected gain in jobs reported on Friday."

Frankfurt (AP-Dow Jones) - In moderate trading, the Commerzbank index, calculated at mid-session, was down 8.3 points at 1,499.0.

Nikkei rise checked by concern over dollar

(Reuter) - Share prices closed higher yesterday, mainly on buying of domestic demand-related shares, but concern about the direction of the yen/dollar rate dissuaded investors from taking significant positions, brokers said.

"The market is generally mixed and investors are sidelined," said Mr Akio Ishida, deputy general manager at Yasuda Trust Fund.

The Nikkei index gained 68.91 points, or 0.25 per cent, to close at 27,985.99. It rose 188.95 points on Friday. Advancing shares led declining issues by six to five in

active turnover of 1.1 billion shares against 1.4 billion on Friday.

Singapore - Share prices closed mixed in quiet trading, with the Straits Times industrial index rising 2.13 points to close at 1,095.80. Turnover fell to 20.1 million shares from Friday's 23.2 million.

Hong Kong - The Hang Seng index rose 6.69 points to finish at 2,759.59 in quiet trading, featuring what brokers called a technically-based demand from local investors. The broader-based Hong Kong index gained 3.81 to 1,823.63.

WALL STREET

Table of Wall Street stock prices for July 8 and 7, listing various companies and their prices.

CANADIAN PRICES

Table of Canadian stock prices for July 8 and 7, listing companies like Agropur, Alcan, and others.

RECENT ISSUES

Table of recent stock issues, including Rockfort (140p) at 132, BMSSE at 146, and others.

RIGHTS ISSUES

Table of rights issues, including Hunterprint N/P at 20-1, Kelt Energy N/P at 56, and others.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table of traditional options, listing last dealings and last declarations for various companies.

BRITISH STEEL RESULTS.

Another year of increased profits.

Table comparing British Steel's performance for 2 April 1988 and 28 March 1987, showing increases in turnover, profit, and deliveries.

"The past year has been a momentous one for the British Steel Corporation. The very encouraging improvement which was reported last year has been maintained and profits have substantially increased.

"The present profit position of British Steel is the reward for the radical measures taken over past years to rationalise and restructure the operations of the business, allied with benefits increasingly coming through from well directed investment in plant and equipment, which have together given us a more competitive cost base. We have been able to take advantage of the buoyancy of demand during the past year for many of our key products, particularly in the United Kingdom market, where the success of the Government's economic and

financial policies has been reflected in recent growth in the United Kingdom economy appreciably above the European Community average. Our production has therefore been higher than for several years, backed by consistently good levels of plant performance.

"That British Steel has achieved the business success it has is due to the efforts of all who are and have been involved in it. A very important contribution has been made by the extent to which we in British Steel have linked pay increases to productivity and to other improvements."



Sir Robert Scholey, Chairman, British Steel.

Advertisement for Citycall Bulletin, featuring the text 'Our market report is never more than 30 minutes old.' and contact information: 0898 12 12 20, CITYCALL BULLETIN.

ALPHA STOCKS

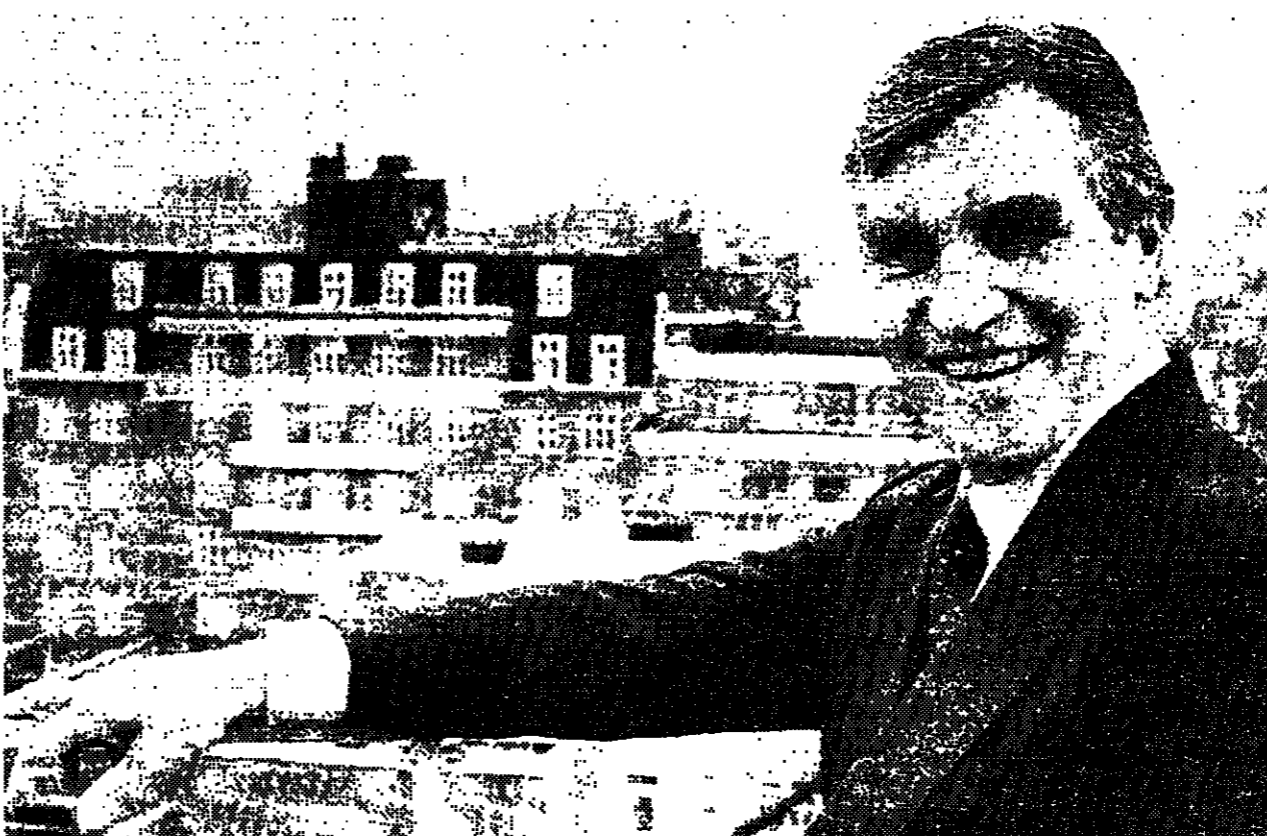
Table of Alpha Stocks with columns for company names and stock prices.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Table of London Traded Options with columns for series, call/put, and prices.

Walker aims to reign in Spain

George Walker is aiming to take his company to the top of the European leisure league, reports Geoffrey Foster



Contending for a place in the sun: George Walker is as enthusiastic as ever in his drive to take Brent Walker forward

George Walker, the chairman and chief executive of Brent Walker, is riding the crest of a Spanish wave.

His company's share price continues to scale new heights as the City recognizes that he is well on the way to making Brent Walker one of Europe's largest and most exciting leisure groups.

One would think Mr Walker, aged 58, would be content to rest easy and reflect on his impressive record of building up the company from a meagre £794,000 pre-tax profit in 1983 to a £222 million empire expected to reveal pre-tax profits of about £36 million in the current year.

His enthusiasm is greater than ever as he spends most of his time commuting from his head office in Knightsbridge, London, to the group's newly-acquired property and leisure developments in northern France and Spain.

This year, Brent paid £9.8 million for a 76 per cent interest - soon to be increased to 93 per cent - in Puerto Sherry, a new holiday complex and marina development near Jerez in South-west Spain, overlooking the Bay of Cádiz, with the sole aim of making it the most exclusive marina in Europe.

Construction work has begun, and plans for a 1,000-berth marina with dry dock facilities for 2,000 boats, with cranes capable of lifting boats

up to 200 tonnes, are under way.

On the same site, Brent Walker has been granted planning permission for 1,000 residential properties, including 500 exclusive four- and five-bedroom villas, 90 retail units, a yacht club, two 120-bedroom hotels, 60 luxury suites, and leisure facilities.

These include three swimming pools, a nightclub, bars and restaurants, conference centre, an 18-hole golf course, tennis and squash courts and a membership-only yacht club and casino.

Spaniards have already left £2 million on deposit with Brent Walker for the purchase of flats - priced between £90,000 and £120,000 - and Mr Walker is confident that even the luxury suites, with prices of £300,000 and above,

will be snapped up, mainly by Spanish, French or West German sunseekers.

The whole Spanish acquisition will pay for itself in no time at all; Mr Walker is confident that his marina will attract the wealthy yachtsmen and their families.

Several Olympic sailing teams are training at the venue, which also attracts important regattas and ocean racing throughout the year.

The Puerto Sherry marina has been earmarked to hold the yachting and sailing races when the Olympic Games reach Spain in 1992.

To complement Puerto Sherry, Mr Walker has ventured a few miles inland from the marina and bought a huge water theme park for £1.75 million.

The appropriately named "Aquasherry" offers all-day family entertainment in the sun, with water chutes to cater for all ages. The site, built into the cliffside, has the potential for other leisure activities.

Mr Walker has invited Mr Harvey Goldsmith, the popular music promoter, to visit the site next year and give his opinion on whether a rock concert could be held there. Mr Walker is confident that more than 25,000 people could be seated at Aquasherry in complete comfort.

Brent Walker also owns 1,500 acres of freehold land around Le Touquet, northern France, including a hotel, clubhouse, casino and three golf courses. It has planning consent for up to 100 homes, a new 120-bed hotel and leisure centre, and an 18-hole golf course.

The group intends to expand significantly in northern France as Mr Walker realizes that the opening of the Channel tunnel, due in 1993, will provide an excellent opportunity for anyone with property and leisure facilities within an hour's drive of the tunnel.

Le Touquet is situated just 15 minutes' drive from the French end of the tunnel, and will surely be a popular place of rest for tired drivers who might fancy a game of golf after a night's rest.

Shareholders should not worry that Mr Walker harbours any retirement ideas, or that his enthusiasm might wane - his group looks as if it could find itself at the top of the European leisure league sooner than a lot of people thought.

Parkdale plans to move into hotels

By Cliff Feltham

Parkdale Holdings, the property company now headed by Sir Peter Parker, the former chairman of British Rail, is about to move into the hotels business.

The company has no plans for competing with Trusthouse Forte or the Savoy, but Mr Robert Breare, the chief executive, is all set to announce the acquisition of what could be the first of a chain of small, up-market, country-based hotels or coaching inns.

He has picked places such as Bath, Ipswich, and other provincial centres as ideal for building up a group of exclusive hotels with up to 40 bedrooms, offering luxury weekend breaks, with a strong midweek appeal for businessmen.

Parkdale expects to spend close on £15 million during the current year on buying hotels suitable to launch the new division.

Mr Breare is enthusiastic about gaining a niche in what he describes as the market for "oak beams, inglenook fireplaces and lots of five-star luxury." The steady earnings flow generated by a hotel division would also help to iron out the bumps on the property dealing side.

"It is something we have been looking at closely for some time and I would like to get into the business fairly quickly. It is an area of the hotel market a lot of the majors cannot be bothered getting involved with.

"We may have to spend a bit on the places we buy to get them just right but I am sure it will be worth it in the end."

Another idea being actively pursued is nursing homes - which other hotel companies have also found to be compatible.

Feldstein to join Robeco

Mr Martin Feldstein, the former chairman of President Reagan's Council of Economic Advisers, has been appointed adviser to the Dutch investment group, Rotterdamsch Beleggingsconsortium (Robeco).

BASE LENDING RATES

Table of Base Lending Rates for various banks and financial institutions.

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Large advertisement for NSM plc (formerly Burnett & Hallamshire), featuring a large logo and text describing the company's reorganization and expansion into opencast coal contractors.

Table with columns for Bid, Offer, Change, Ytd. Includes ASSET UNIT TRUST MANAGERS, RUSSELL INVESTMENT SERVICES, and various fund listings.

Table with columns for Bid, Offer, Change, Ytd. Includes SOCIETY & LAW, FUND MANAGERS, and various fund listings.

Table with columns for Bid, Offer, Change, Ytd. Includes FUND MANAGERS, SOCIETY & LAW, and various fund listings.

Table with columns for Bid, Offer, Change, Ytd. Includes FUND MANAGERS, SOCIETY & LAW, and various fund listings.

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Table with columns for Bid, Offer, Change, Ytd. Includes FUND MANAGERS, SOCIETY & LAW, and various fund listings.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Large table listing unlisted securities with columns for High, Low, Company, Price, Bid, Offer, Change, % Ytd.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table showing Sterling Index compared with 1975, Sterling Spot and Forward Rates, and Dollar Spot Rates.

MONEY MARKETS

Table showing Base Rates, Clearing Banks, Finance, and Euro Money Deposits.

GOLD

Table showing Bullion, Spot Gold, and Gold Bars.

COMMODITIES

Table showing LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES, CRUDE OILS, and various commodity prices.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table listing investment trusts with columns for Bid, Offer, Change, Ytd.

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From your Portfolio gold card check your eight share price movements on this page every day...

Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists various companies like Shell, British Airways, etc.

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend table with columns: Company, Dividend, Yield, P/E

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns: Fund Name, Price, Change, % P/E

SHORTS (Under Five Years) table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % P/E

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % P/E

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % P/E

UNDATED table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % P/E

INDEX-LINKED table with columns: Index, Price, Change, % P/E

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % P/E

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES Equities mark time

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began July 4. Dealings end July 15. Settlement day July 25.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend.

(VOLUMES PAGE 29.)

Main stock exchange price table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for Breweries, Building/Roads, Finance/Land, Financial Trusts, Foods, Chemicals/Plastics, Cinemas/TV, Drapery/Stores, Hotels/Caterers, Industrials A-D, Electricals, E-K, L-R, S-Z, Insurance, Leisure, Mining, Motors/Aircraft, Newspapers/Publishers, Oils/Gas, Shipping, Shoes/Leather, Textiles, and Tobaccos.

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DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000 Claims required for 42 points ACCUMULATOR £118,000

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists overseas traders.

OVERSEAS TRADERS table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

PROPERTY table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

MINING table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

SHIPPING table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

SHOES, LEATHER table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

TEXTILES table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

TOBACCOS table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

OILS, GAS table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

FINANCE, LAND table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

FINANCIAL TRUSTS table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

FOODS table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

CINEMAS, TV table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, possibly a page number or reference.

TECHNOLOGY

Gorky Street sales

From Susan HARRISS in Moscow
Ingenuity is needed to turn a profit in the Soviet Union. Western firms are lining up to try to take advantage of a reforming 1987 law that lets Soviet and foreign enterprises open joint business ventures.

They are soon baffled by the complexities of Soviet joint venture law and are handicapped by lack of experience in dealing with Soviet officials and by a sketchy knowledge of the market. Almost 60 joint venture agreements have been signed since 1987. But only a handful of new companies are actually working.

Interquadro, the fruit of Mr Kaplan's years of experience at the Moscow office of Antral-Utec, the French computer firm, plans to change this. Antral-Utec has a 20 per cent stake in Interquadro, the Soviet Education Ministry 40 per cent, Gosagroprom, the super-ministry for agriculture, 35 per cent and Italian import-export company Delta Trading five per cent.

Wealth creation to spur IT research

By John Lamb
John Butcher, the Minister for Industry and Consumer Affairs, last week hit out at critics who he said have questioned whether Britain has a programme for information technology (IT) research to replace the Alvey programme which officially ends this year.

"I welcome this opportunity to remind everyone that the Government's new national programme is at an advanced stage," he told an audience at the 1988 UK IT Conference at Swansea University. The conference was the fourth and final get-together of those taking part in the Alvey programme.

Industrialists and academics have until August 12 to submit outline research plans to the Information Engineering Directorate (IED) which will now oversee the IT interests of both the Department of Trade and Industry and the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC). The SERC funds university researchers. The DTI has set aside £29 million for the national programme over the next three years, while SERC will be contributing £55 million over a five year period.

Research into expert systems - software that mimics human expertise - and into standards will not find a place in the new programme. But Mr Butcher made it clear that there would be changes. For instance, research into expert systems - software that mimics human expertise - and into standards will not find a place in the new programme.



Rebuffing the critics: John Butcher, Minister for Industry and Consumer Affairs

Research into IT has been arranged into three streams. They cover work on very large scale integration chips including the computer aided design needed to produce them: systems architecture, which is to do with new styles of computer, and systems engineering, the production of software and development of techniques for human communication with computers.

Education and training will now feature in the programme including the development of distance learning or correspondence courses in IT. Education and training will now feature in the programme including the development of distance learning or correspondence courses in IT.

If in doubt, then try an interactive video

Retailers are always looking for new ways to improve their competitive edge. The design high street over the past four or five years, but is probably just about running out of steam. Increasing floor space and simply pushing more of the product at the customer more quickly also has its limitations.

The main reasons are the high staff turnover, which makes employers reluctant to spend money on employees who may quickly move on, and the variable hours worked by shop staff. Now there is a technological opportunity to change that with interactive video.

If it is to be effective the training needs to be exciting, the trainee has to be hooked; and it must deliver a consistent message. But, above all, because of the fragmented nature of the retail trade with people working a whole range of different hours, the training must be capable of being delivered at times and places that fit in with the individual business circumstances.

Japan, which has built much of its technological prowess on the foundations of western science, is moving to broaden its scientific exchanges with the United States. Under a pact signed last month by President Ronald Reagan and Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, Japan will donate \$4 million to invite US scientists and engineers to the country, open research laboratories to Americans and boost the number of foreign researchers invited on scholarships from 28 to 200.

PERSPECTIVE

If in doubt, then try an interactive video

There are now several real examples of this in action. The do-it-yourself group B & Q, for instance, now has its own custom-designed training course on interactive disc. There could be a considerable bonus if retailers adopted interactive techniques. In many fields of retailing the products themselves are becoming technically very advanced and customers are certainly becoming more demanding.

Somebody who wants to buy a kitchen will want to know about sophisticated things like the compatibility of different colours. The purchaser of a portable computer will have questions about RAMs and ROMs, MS-DOS and kilobytes.

Retailers such as Currys and Dixons are already committed to this sort of practical approach. American experience in a variety of different retail trades has shown clearly that people will choose to go to stores with this sort of electronic backup in preference to those which have not.

number of problems overlooked by Washington. Nagahide Onozawa will oversee 100 of the foreign researchers under the jurisdiction of the governmental Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. He says promising American scientists, eligible for 30 to 40 of the endowments, are not the most likely candidates to respond to the new program.



New techniques with computers and video can dramatically improve training methods, argues Dick Horsnell, above

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THURSDAY General Appointments: Banking and Accountancy, Engineering, Management, etc. with editorial. La Creme de la Creme and other secretarial appointments. Legal La Creme for top legal secretaries.

FRIDAY Motors: A complete car buyer's guide with editorial. Business to Business: Business opportunities, commercial property, with editorial. SATURDAY Overseas and UK Holidays: Villas/Cottages, Hotels, Flights, etc. Restaurant Guide: Where to eat in London and nationwide with editorial fortnightly. Times Guide to Legal & Financial Services: Conveyancing to divorce, shares to management, with editorial. Shoparound: Window shopping from the comfort of your own home.

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Our clients, Albright & Wilson Ltd., are a major international chemical company with manufacturing facilities in the UK, the Continent, North America, and the Far East. They employ over 6,000 people worldwide, and total sales are well in excess of £600 million a year. They are a subsidiary of Tenneco Inc., which has its headquarters in Houston, Texas.

They now wish to appoint a commercial lawyer to join the legal department at their Head Office in Central London. Virtually all the group's legal work (with the exception of litigation) is done in-house, the emphasis being on

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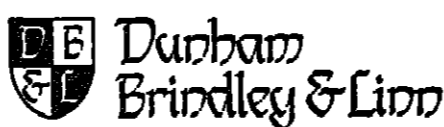
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For further details please contact the relevant consultants on (01) 583 0073 (day) or (01) 574 2160 (evenings and weekends) or write to them at 16-18 New Bridge Street London EC4V 6AU or 6 Lloyds Avenue London EC3N 3AX.

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The successful applicant will have a good academic track record and will be able to communicate effectively at all levels. An inquiring and analytical mind will be an advantage, as the ability to solve problems efficiently is fundamental. Experience within the securities industry is desirable but not essential.

An attractive salary, and benefits package to include non-contributory pension, free travel, BUPA, and relocation expenses where applicable will be offered. Those wishing to apply for this post should contact us in the first instance.

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If you would like to know more, you should write, in strictest confidence, to:- David Rance, Freshfields, Grindall House, 25 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7LH.

FRESHFIELDS

Degrees awarded by the University of East Anglia

Table listing degrees awarded by the University of East Anglia, categorized by school and subject area. Includes School of Art History and Music, School of Biological Sciences, School of Economics and Finance, etc.

Oxford University class lists

Table listing Oxford University class lists, categorized by school and subject area. Includes School of Biological Sciences, School of Economics and Finance, School of Law, etc.

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CRICKET

Bacher prepares to carry on ploughing his lonely furrow

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

Ali Bacher is too wise and experienced to have been remotely surprised that another International Cricket Conference meeting last week could spend most of its time speaking about South Africa yet none at all speaking with the South African delegates.

found himself provoked by the televised comments of Viv Richards and Clive Lloyd. "They fail to see that we are on the same side," he said.

Nicholas likely to carry on playing

Mark Nicholas, the Hampshire captain, who broke his nose in a collision in a Refuge Assurance League match at Southampton on Sunday, expects to be fit to face Surrey at Guildford in the Britannic Assurance county championship tomorrow.

Ranjit Fernandez as the management team. Sri Lanka will play one Cornhill Test against England, starting at Lord's on August 25, and a Texaco one-day international at the Oval on September 4.

Opener Davis closes his account

Percy Davis, the former Northamptonshire opening batsman, has retired after 22 seasons as senior professional at Harrow school (Tony Winlaw writes).

South Africa's cricket century celebration next March is being seen as their window to the world. It remains a matter of doubt whether anyone will look in.

Dedication of the marathon men



Eyes on a common purpose: Dresser and Williams work towards the world marathon (Photograph: Peter Trevisor)

Enduring the torture of irate swans and the pain barrier

Breeze blocks, backsides and broody swans are the major problems. Overcome them and there is just the physically exhausting matter of 42 kilometres of frenetic paddling to contend with.

But an amount of technical know-how can alleviate the torture of the numb posterior, the danger of lumps of submerged concrete, or the discomfort of the huge calluses on the hands.

The attack can last anything up to a few miles. Not that a few miles of waterway hold many fears for Dresser. Last year he ploughed through 125 of them to win the Devizes to Westminster race in a shade over 16 hours.

Keen tactical acumen needed for success

Williams, whose sparse, lean frame none the less exudes a sense of perfectly honed power, is eager to disabuse one of the notions that canoeing is all falling arms amid a cascade of spray.

Keen tactical acumen needed for success

Williams, whose sparse, lean frame none the less exudes a sense of perfectly honed power, is eager to disabuse one of the notions that canoeing is all falling arms amid a cascade of spray.

TENNIS

New young faces in British squad

Britain have included three young players, Richard Whittle, Danny Sapsford and Mark Petchey, in their squad for the Davis Cup match with Austria on red clay at Zell-Am-See from July 22 to 24.

Whittle, aged 21, of Kent, and Sapsford, aged 19, of Surrey, are named in their country's Davis Cup squad for the first time and are there mainly for training purposes.

SHOOTING

Holder in battle to keep title

By a Special Correspondent John de Havilland, the merchant banker who has won the Hopton Challenge Cup in the rifle championship at Bisley for four of the last six years, is having a struggle in his attempt to retain the title this week.

At the end of the third day of this long-range shooting, up to 1,200 yards, the former Queen's Prize winner, John Bloomfield, was in the lead with 743 points to count for a head of de Havilland, with one free-range competition to go.

Results, page 45

FOOTBALL

S Africans claim Keegan will visit

Cape Town (Reuters) - Kevin Keegan, the former England captain, will visit South Africa this month to play in Cape Town, according to the owner of a local club here.

Manchester City have signed Nigel Gleghorn from Ipswich Town. The fee for the midfielder player, aged 25, will be decided by a tribunal as Gleghorn is out of contract.

AC Milan prepared for a testing draw

Milan (Reuters) - AC Milan, unseeded despite the services of three of the Netherlands side that won the recent European championship, are resigned to the possibility of an awkward start to next season's European Cup when the draw is made in Geneva today.

The holders of the three competitions - PSV Eindhoven (European Cup), Middlesbrough (Cup Winners' Cup) and Bayer Leverkusen (UEFA Cup) - automatically go through to the second round. Belgium and Spain are the only nations to have seeds in each of the three competitions.

Way clear for Yorath

The Welsh Football Association is today expected to name the successor to Mike England the manager of its national side.

contract at Swansea remaining is today expected to be like a four-year deal with Wales, but he is willing to accept working on a "match-fee only" basis for the first 12 months.

CYCLING: SIMON TAKES STAGE BUT BAUER KEEPS THE LEAD

Yates's spirited attacks lift him to fourth place

Sean Yates, who became the first Englishman to win a stage of the Tour de France in 13 years last Friday, almost scored a second success yesterday in the ninth stage of the race, 100 miles from Nancy to Strasbourg over the Vosges mountains.

Besides Bauer's Weinmann squad, the only others to chase were the French-based Toshiba team of Jean-Francois Bernard. The Frenchmen obviously did not want the other French teams to steal a march on them, particularly as Simon, of Z-Peugeot, had a chance of taking the race lead and the accompanying publicity.

Yates continued to do more than his fair share of the work in the breakaway group, but he could not control the many attacks in the final six miles and Simon went clear to win the stage, enabling him to move up to second place overall.



Yates working hard

STUDENT SPORT

Scots to lead British challenge

Students from Scotland will form the backbone of the British team to compete in the men's and women's world student golf championship at the Is Molos golf club in Sardinia, from October 6 to 9.

The women's team includes the talented Stirling University student, Katrina Lambert, aged 19, and Lorna Lundie, 20, Lambert with a handicap of one, is a Scottish under-21 member of the British Ladies Golf Club and is the 1987 British universities' match-play champion and this year's runner-up.

Scottish senior international, whose experience will be invaluable for this very young squad. The final member of the team is the Surrey University student and former English schools' champion, Tina Jeary, who, as a result of illness, under-performed in the British universities' stroke-play championship in June.

YACHTING

Shortened series to Jobson

With light winds creating an impossible backlog, the Liberty Cup match-race series in New York Harbour had to be concluded with three flights of the second round-robin set to sail.

BOXING

Duran shapes up for supporters

For 50 pounds a throw, boxing supporters will be able to see Roberto Duran, "a living legend", throwing punches at a dinner show in London tomorrow night.

The Panamanian, now 37, who was world champion at three different weights, will spar six rounds of two or three minutes with Errol Christie, the Coventry middleweight, and Michael Harris, the light-middle from Swansea, at the Porter Tun Rooms, ECI.

Operation for Notice

Horace Notice was told yesterday by his manager, Terry Damiani for his progress in Italy on September 10, but Lawless said: "We have just got to forget about everything now and get Horace better again."

Meanwhile, Lawless heard at the weekend that legal steps in Mike Tyson's dispute with his manager, Bill Cayton, are starting to progress after a slow start. Lawless is confident that the world light-middleweight champion will travel to London to defend against Frank Bruno at Wembley stadium on September 3 after all.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Table listing various sports fixtures including Cricket (Barns v Gloucestershire), Football (Sheff Wed v Millwall), and other sports.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page.

Verplank is back to his old best

By Patricia Davies

The name Scott Verplank may be vaguely familiar to keen golf followers but they are damned if they can remember...

Verplank, the former United States amateur champion, who won the 1985 Western Open from all the pros before he joined...

Verplank, untroubled by cuts, contented himself with stalking birds and, taking meticulous care in the strong, gusting wind...

His fellow American, Jim Benepe, the latest holder of the Western Open title, also qualified comfortably, on 143, after a round of 74 that took its toll on his nerves...

"I've always hated qualifying," admitted the man from Wyoming, who topped the Canadian order of merit last year and took advantage of a sponsor's invitation to compete in the Western Open...

Commans ahead by big margin after protest by partners

By John Hennessy

Ron Commans confirmed his status as one of the class players in the four Open Championship qualifying competitions yesterday, yet he came within 15 seconds of being disqualified...

Commans, a Walker Cup player for the United States in his amateur days, was the subject of a protest by his two playing partners, Ashley Carter, of Lincoln, and Paul Curry, of the inaptly named Quietwaters Club in Essex...

An R and A official, Peter Greenough, then put a watch on Commans for the last two holes of the outward half at Fairhaven and the threesome completed the nine holes in 2hr 2min 15sec...

In the end, Commans, bringing all his professional expertise to bear, added a 67 to his record 66 on Sunday and led the qualifiers at Fairhaven by a handsome margin at an astonishing 15 under par...

Both Curry (146) and Carter (150) failed to survive the cut but Commans was at least spectacularly overshadowed on one hole by Neil Burke, of Chipstead, where Commans, in a rare moment of indiscipline, had taken six at the 505 yards 11th, Burke surpassed him by no fewer than four shots...

name in Lytham Open championship history, since his father, bearing the same name, distinguished himself by finishing joint sixth with Jack Nicklaus in 1969...

Love, 24, recorded a 67 at Fairhaven in spite of a fierce wind, which, as he readily explained afterwards, provided alien conditions for his island habitat in Georgia...

Yet another American, Tom Duzanica, was prominent at Fairhaven for other, less palatable, reasons. He had a second round of 96 for a total of 182, 34 over par and 49 over Commans...

His score included, remarkably, a birdie, together with five pars and a rising tide of scores over par at other holes, culminating with a 10 at the 11th, where he was three times out of bounds...

A trusty messenger, hot-footing it from Fairhaven to Lytham, described him as "weird, with a pony tail". As with Bob Brit on Sunday, the R and A will be making enquiries of the United States Professional Golfers Association...

Paul Broadhurst, winner of the Lytham Trophy earlier in the season, scored 67, three under par, at Lytham Green Drive, for a total of 139. This puts him on the border line and he had to go out again with seven others for a sudden death play-off to decide the last four places...

Williamsburg (Renter) - Tom Sieckmann scored a par on the second hole in a sudden-death play-off with his fellow-American, Mark Wiebe, on Sunday to win the \$650,000 Williamsburg Classic for his first victory in four years on the PGA Tour...

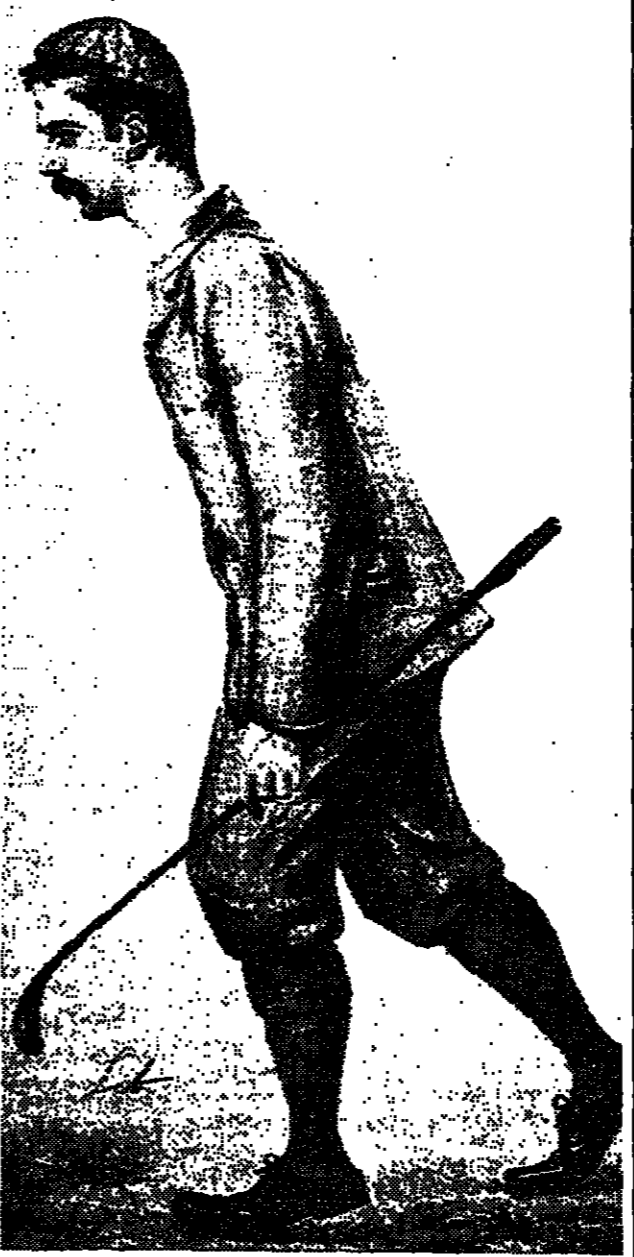
Sieckmann and Wiebe finished regulation play tied at 270, 14 under par, after 72 holes at the Williamsburg PGA Tour, which was a 15-foot putt to save par on the first play-off hole...

"I was able to manage my game well and made the crucial putts when I had to. This is a sense of relief to have won finally on the PGA Tour," Sieckmann, who has won seven times on the Asian and European tours, said...

The victory was worth \$117,000 (\$69,000) to Sieckmann. Wiebe, the winner here in 1985, received \$70,000. The Americans, Kenny Knox and Gene Sauers, tied for third place two strokes behind, with competitors Jeff Sturman and the 1987 champion, Mark McCumber, another shot back...

Sieckmann, who entered the final round tied for the lead with hundreds of other examples of golfing art, his oils and watercolours take pride of place in an exhibition at London's Burlington Gallery...

Collected over the past three years by Angus Lloyd, chairman of the gallery, and Nick Potter, his managing director, the exhibition only coincides with the Open but also represents what they claim to be the first exhibition of golf art...



Amateur champion: the Vanity Fair caricature of John Ball junior (1861-1940)

Exhibition mirrors highs and lows

By Louise Taylor

It does not take too great a stretch of the imagination to equate 18 holes of fairway, rough, bunker and green with the highs and lows of life itself...

Few artists have captured such a range of mood better than Major Francis Powell Hopkins, who devoted much of the latter part of his life (1830-1913) to patrolling Britain's coasts equipped with easel, canvas, brushes and paints...

Britain might benefit from Toronto's plan

By John Goodbody

Toronto, which will bid against Manchester to stage the 1996 Olympics, plans to have the only stadium in the world with a fully retractable roof available for the opening and closing ceremonies of the Games...

The Skydome, which will cost £183 million and be able to seat up to 70,000 spectators, will be open next May and will primarily stage the home games of the Toronto Blue Jays baseball team...

The Skydome is projected to have an annual income of £21 million a year and make a profit of £10 million, and is so large that St Paul's Cathedral could almost fit inside the stadium when the roof is closed...

One outstanding feature of the Skydome is that it will include a 350-suite luxury hotel, enabling guests to watch events from their rooms...

England's emphatic opening

From Sydney Friskin Santander

England made an impressive start to the Junior Open tennis championship here yesterday with an emphatic victory over Austria in group B. A win over Poland today will ensure a place in the semi-finals...

Persistent attacks along the right flank, with Mayer in full control, gained the initiative for England, who were three goals ahead by half time. But for a heroic display by Braunegger, their goalkeepers, Austria would have suffered a heavier defeat...

England to take on Chinese

By Richard Eaton

The tremendous improvement in the amount of top-class competition in this country in the past 18 months continued with the news yesterday that England's men will play a series of 12 matches against China, the world's leading table tennis nation, between October 22 and November 3...

This follows the considerable success of England's series against China, last year, and the announcement only last month of a three-match series in six weeks' time against Sweden, the European champions...

The Chinese team is likely to include Hui Jun, winner of the world mixed doubles title, Wang Hao, a world men's singles quarter-finalist, and Chen Xizhou, twice a member of world title winning teams, at present residing in this country and hoping that officials channels will allow him to marry the daughter of a Manchester restaurant owner...

This is not the top Chinese team but still a very good one with the world's top 10. The only reservations about the whole enterprise is the exhausting effect of so long a series upon the competitors. Last time eight matches left many of them feeling distinctly punchy...

England's team will probably be led by No. 1 Desmond Burtles, the national champion, Alan Cooke and the national top 12 winner, Carl Preen, who was England's best player in the side that so superbly won the European silver medal in March. The controversy over Preen's bat rubber - later discovered to be illegal, thus affecting the Isle of Wight player's chances of challenging for the European men's singles title - has now been resolved. Two world leaders have paid their levy to the International Federation, their product is back on the approved list, and Preen can revert to his favourite equipment...

Bouet's right decision

By Keith Wheatley

Falmouth Bay provided rigorous conditions for the first day of the European six-metre championships, sponsored by Famous Grouse Whisky. Kitted out by a French skipper, Marc Bouet, took the right decision to wear heavy weather sails and led the race throughout in upwards of 20 knots of southerly breeze...

The best performance came from St Kitts. After starting early she went back to the line and was thirteenth at the first windward mark. However, inspired downwind sailing from owner Philip Walwyn put her third at the first leeward mark and she then pulled up to second, her final position...

Back in saddle

Captain Mark Phillips returns to competitive riding on Saturday when he will be the two-day Antico Horse Trials at Stowe School, Buckingham. He has been out for six months with an Achilles tendon injury...

League Cricket Results

RUSS INTER-PROVINCIAL SERIES: South Lancashire 218 for 4, Uttar County 165 for 8. South Lancashire 248 for 4, Uttar County 248 for 4. SOUTH DURNHAM LEAGUE: Stockton 128 for 4, Scarborough 128 for 4. SOUTH DURNHAM LEAGUE: Scarborough 128 for 4, Stockton 128 for 4. SOUTH DURNHAM LEAGUE: Scarborough 128 for 4, Stockton 128 for 4.

LEADING QUALIFIERS

Table of golf scores for leading qualifiers, including names like BLACKWOOD, NORTH SHIRE, and LYTHAM GREEN DRIVE.

FOR THE RECORD

Table of sports records for American Football, Athletics, and Baseball.

Table of sports records for Golf, Shooting, and Hockey.

Table of sports records for Yachting, Boxing, and Cricket.

Table of sports records for Basketball, Football, and Pool.

Table of sports records for Croquet, Tennis, and Motorsport.

Holder is blown away at the earliest stage

By George Ace

Arthur Pierce, from Tipperary, the former Walker Cup player and winner of the North of Ireland amateur title last year, was a first round casualty in this week's championship when he was blown away by one hole to the comparatively unknown David Gibson, a two-handicap player from the Downpatrick club...

Gibson, aged 26, was all square at the turn. Birdies were exchanged at the 10th and 11th, and the 12th was halved with birdies before Gibson eased ahead at the 16th with the fourth while Pierce formed the par for two on the 17th hole. Pierce just failed to hole a long putt on the 18th for a birdie and the hole was halved...

Garth McGimpsey, from Bangor, the tournament champion who led the opening championship with a record 36 holes total of 136 - six under par - moved into the second round with an impressive six and five hole on the 18th hole. McGimpsey's first round victory was also achieved by Brian Hoey, twice winner of the title...

Hoey, aged 54, from the Shandon Park Club, Belfast, scored a massive eight and seven over Gary Sherman, of Tandragee. Hoey was level par when the match ended on the 11th green.

RESULTS: First round: D Ballantine (Carnegie) 1 hole; J McGimpsey (Carnegie) 1 hole; J McLaughlin (Downpatrick) 1 hole; C McGimpsey (Downpatrick) 1 hole; B Hoey (Shandon) 2 holes; G Sherman (Tandragee) 2 holes; G Hoey (Shandon) 2 holes; D Cormie (Brighton) 2 holes; B Hoey (Shandon) 2 holes; J Hoey (Shandon) 2 holes; J Hoey (Shandon) 2 holes...

Britons are screened for US scholarships

By John Goodbody

Seventeen American coaches will screen more than 100 Britons today and tomorrow to see if they should be awarded sports scholarships to universities in the United States...

Last year about 30 Britons received scholarships after advice from the Foundation, which acts as a clearing-house between British teachers and American colleges. It stresses that, contrary to popular belief, the academic standards are rigorous, even if the individual obtains a sports scholarship. Inquiries for scholarships for the next academic year should be made to: The Sports Scholarship Foundation, 444, Camden Road, London, N7.

